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The Weekly Commercial, a large sheet, contains all the Current News, Miscellaneous, Literary and Scientific Intelligence, and Valuable Reading for the family.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XIV. PITTSBURGH, WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 7, 1877. NO. 128.

The Daily and Weekly Commercial—Newspaper Decisions.—1. Any one who takes a paper regularly from the Postoffice—whether directed to his name or another's, or whether he has subscribed or not—is responsible for the payment.

2. If a person orders his papers discontinued, he must pay all arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made and collect the whole amount, whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

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FIRST EDITION.

XLIV. CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 6, 1877.

SENATE.

Mr. Allison, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported the Indian Appropriation bill, with amendments, and gave notice that he would call it up as soon as possible.

Mr. Sherman, from the Committee on Finance, reported favorably the House bill authorizing the commissioners of the Freedmen's Savings and Trust Company to buy in certain real and other property and to sell the same at public or private sale. The bill was discussed and laid over.

Mr. Cameron, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, reported with amendments the bill recently introduced by Mr. Whyte to encourage and promote telegraphic communication between America and Europe. Placed on the calendar. The principal amendment provides that the rates charged the Government shall not exceed those charged individuals.

Mr. Paddock, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported favorably on the Senate bill for the rites of settlers upon public lands under the pre-emption laws. Passed.

Mr. Windom, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported adversely on the House bill to provide for the payment of James B. Eads for the construction of jetties at the South Pass of the Mississippi river, and it was placed on the calendar with the adverse report. It authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to pay out of any unappropriated money in the Treasury $500,000 to said Eads, whenever the Secretary of War shall determine that amount is due said Eads by the terms of the contract.

Mr. West, from the Committee on Railroads, reported favorably on the Senate bill to amend the act of June 8, 1872, granting the right of way through public lands to the Denver and Rio Grande Railway Company. It repeals the provision in the original act requiring the company to complete the road to a point on the Rio Grande so far south as the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad, in five years, and completes fifty miles additional south of said point in each year thereafter, and in lieu thereof allows the company two years from the passage of the original act to complete the road to Santa Fe. Mr. West said the bill wanted no subsidy, merely granted the right of way. The bill passed.

Mr. Cockrell reported favorably on the Senate joint resolution to amend the joint resolution of July 3, 1876, authorizing the Secretary of War to issue arms to certain States and Territories, so as to issue ammunition not to exceed fifty ball cartridges for each arm. Passed.

Mr. Burnside introduced a bill for the protection of widows, orphans and heirs-at-law of officers of the army of the United States. Referred.

Mr. Christiancy called up the House bill authorizing the survey of certain townships in Michigan, and making appropriations therefor. Passed.

The Chair appointed Mr. Hereford a member of the Committee on Claims, in place of Mr. Price, whose term of service has expired.

Mr. Stevenson presented a memorial of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institute, asking an appropriation of $250,000 to erect a building adjoining the Smithsonian for the exhibition of goods contributed by foreign governments to the United States, which goods were lately on exhibition at Philadelphia.

Messrs. Morrill and Sargent favored the erection of such building. The memorial was referred.

The Legislative, Judicial and Executive Appropriation bill was received from the House of Representatives, and referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. Hamlin, from the Conference Committee on disagreeing to votes of the two Houses on the bill establishing certain post roads, which involves the question of restoring the mail matter to the franking privilege, reported that the committee had been unable to agree. He moved that the new conference asked for by the House of Representatives be granted. So ordered. Subsequently he said the House had not appointed its members of the new conference, although that was the usual course in the Senate, and he moved that the bill be returned to the House, that that body might appoint its members of the committee first. Agreed to.

At the expiration of the morning hour, the bill to amend the Pacific Railroad acts so as to provide a sinking fund for the liquidation of the indebtedness to the Government was taken up. Mr. Hitchcock spoke in opposition to the bill of the Judiciary Committee.

After debate the bill was laid aside informally, with the understanding that it should be the unfinished business to-morrow.

Mr. Ingalls said the bill abolishing the Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners of the District of Columbia, with the President's veto, was lying on the table, the committee having recommended that it be passed, notwithstanding the objections of the President thereto. The subject was discussed at some length, and the question being, Shall the bill pass notwithstanding the objections of the President thereto? it was decided in the negative, yeas 33, nays 22, two-thirds not voting in the affirmative. The vote in detail was as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Aleorn, Barnum, Blaine, Bogy, Booth, Chaffee, Cockrell, Cooper, Davis, Dawes, Dennis, Eaton, Goldthwaite, Hamilton, Hamlin, Hereford, Johnston, Jones, of Florida; Jones, of Nevada; Kelly, Kernan, McDonald, Maxey, Merrimon, Norwood, Robertson, Stevenson, Teller, Wadleigh, Wallace, Whyte and Withers—33.

NAYS—Messrs. Allison, Bruce, Burnside, Christiancy, Clayton, Conkling, Conover, Cragin, Ferry, Hitchcock, Ingalls, Logan, McMillan, Mitchell, Paddock, Patterson, Sargent, Sherman, Spencer, West, Windom and Wright—22.

Mr. Sargent submitted a resolution requesting the Secretary of the Navy to transmit to the Senate the narrative of the second expedition of Captain C. F. Hall to the Arctic regions, to be compiled from notes of the expedition made by Captain Hall and purchased from his widow. Agreed to.

The Senate went into executive session, and when the doors were re-opened took a recess till ten o'clock to-morrow.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

After the usual extension of the recess, the House went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Eden, Illinois, in the chair, on the Deficiency Appropriation bill.

Mr. Waldron stated that the bill appropriated $1,417,000. The largest appropriations were one of $500,000 for deficiency in the Navy Department, and one of $217,000 for pensions to soldiers who have lost limbs.

Mr. Whittlehorne offered an amendment directing the accounting officers of the Treasury to adjust and settle the accounts of officers of the navy whose pay active list service has been affected by general order of the Secretary of the Navy No. 16, since the 1st of September, 1876, on the basis of sailing orders pay. After discussion it was adopted.

Mr. Wells, of Missouri, offered an amendment for the payment of $1 500 to W. H. Avery, of St. Louis, for services as Assistant United States Attorney in the whisky cases. Adopted.

Without disposing of the bill the committee rose.

Mr. Jenks offered a resolution for printing testimony taken before the Committee on Louisiana Affairs which has not been printed.

Mr. Wilson suggested that when the committee should make its general report it would tell the House whether any portion of the testimony had been printed without authority of the House.

Mr. Conger said he understood that a portion of the testimony had been mutilated and surreptitiously printed. On being informed by a member near him that he was mistaken in the committee, and that the committee to which he referred was the Committee on Elections, Mr. Conger said that he should condemn such a proceeding in whatever committee it might occur. The resolution was adopted.

Recess till ten A. M. to-morrow.

POLITICAL.

In the Rhode Island House of Representatives yesterday, resolutions were introduced and ordered to be printed, protesting that the recent arrest and imprisonment of the members of the Louisiana Returning Board, by authority of the National House of Representatives, was a gross violation of the reserved rights of the States.

NEW SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Indications for To-day.—For Tennessee and the Ohio Valley, southwest winds, rising barometer, clear or partly cloudy weather.

Another Russian gunboat, the Gornolsta, arrived at San Francisco yesterday from Yokadsiock. There are now eight there.

C. H. Charles Lounais, proprietor of the Dominion Foundry, at Montreal, has made an assignment. Liabilities estimated at 70,000; assets large.

It is reported in journalistic circles in Chicago that Mr. Richard Smith, of Cincinnati, is negotiating for the purchase of the *Inter-Ocean*.

One thousand one hundred miners at the Stone colliery, Mahanoy plane, Schuylkill county, Pa., struck on account of a all reduction of pay.

Can She Bake?

Who can make good Bread with poor flour? Try White River It never fails.

Electoral Tribunal.

Result of Yesterday's Deliberations

A Continuous Session of Twelve Hours.

Determination to Go Back of the Governor's Certificate.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 6, 1877.

The Electoral Tribunal, after an almost continuous sitting of twelve hours, adjourned about nine o'clock, to-night to resume their secret session to-morrow morning at ten. It is intimated that the deliberations to-day embraced a very thorough investigation of the principles involved in the various questions entering into the points of controversy between the contesting parties. The arguments by counsel on both sides presented each case in its most forcible aspect, and the members of the tribunal are giving each due weight. A statement was in circulation among the Democrats today that the tribunal had decided, by a vote of eleven to four, to go back of the certificate of Governor Stearns. This could be traced to no better authority than rumor, as it is not admitted in authoritative sources that any action in the nature of a vote has been taken.

It is inferred, from the general expressions of those advised on the subject, that an effort will be made to establish a general principle which will enable the tribunal to enunciate a policy for the government of its treatment of future contests which may come up in contested cases. Numerous propositions were made during the day, but without reaching a final decision. It can be stated that the disposition of the tribunal is to adopt a medium position which will cover extreme and diverse cases. It is the opinion of your correspondent that the tribunal will determine to go back of the certificate of the Governor of Florida to ascertain the degree, thereby establishing an important principle to the extent of ascertaining the general features upon which the action of the Returning Board was based. This will cover the Hayes and Cronin case in Oregon, enabling the tribunal to go back of Grover's certificate, so as to consider the substantial points in the extraordinary procedure in attempting to fix the electoral vote of that State in contravention of the will of the people. In case therefore be safely said, from intimation and inference, that the result of the deliberations of the tribunal to-day was to go beyond the record to sufficiently establish the correctness of the participation of the State Executive authority in completing the record in compliance with the Constitution and act of 1792.

By Associated Press.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 6—The Electoral Commission, after taking a recess of half an hour in the middle of the afternoon, remained in secret session until nearly nine o'clock this evening, when they adjourned to meet again for private consideration at ten o'clock to-morrow morning. No votes were taken to-day, nor was any conclusion reached on any point at issue; but it was agreed that all pending questions in regard to the admission of evidence shall be decided to-morrow. It can be stated that according to present indications, the majority of the commission will decide that in addition to the electoral certificate, no evidence can be received by the commission in regard to the Florida case, except such as relates merely to the action of the Florida State government subsequent to the Presidential election. Conceding this to be the determination of the commission, their inquiries in regard to matters of fact will be restricted to comparatively a narrow range, and thus a final decision in the Florida case may be expected sooner than has been generally anticipated. The evidence concerning the action of the Florida courts and Legislature on the matter in contest is of a documentary character, and already accessible to the commission. It is probable, therefore, that their final decision in the Florida case will be reported to the joint session of the two Houses before the close of the present week.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

France.

UNSUCCESSFUL EFFORT TO AMEND THE LAWS GOVERNING THE PRESS.

VERSAILLES, February 6.—There was an animated debate in the Chamber of Deputies yesterday on the liberty of the press. The House passed a motion in favor of abrogating the repressive decree of 1853; but afterward, in consequence of the representations of Premier Simon that the Government would be unable to deal with the anti Republican press, the vote was reconsidered and the motion was adopted, permitting decrees to remain in force provisionally. The Press Committee of Deputies subsequently proceeded to submit a report in favor of the amendment of the law under which Republican journals have recently been condemned. It is announced that the Government has ordered legal proceedings against *Le Pays*.

DESTITUTION AMONG THE WORKMEN IN LYONS.

VERSAILLES, February 6—In the Chamber of Deputies yesterday, M. Ordinaire, the Radical Republican member from Lyons, questioned the Government as to what steps it intended to take to alleviate the distress among the workmen of Lyons. M. Ordinaire stated that 50,000 operatives were thrown out of employment in consequence of low wages and the dearness of raw silk, which had risen eighty per cent. M. Simon, President of the Council, replied that the Government would do everything in its power to assist the local authorities. It is known that two-thirds of the silk workers are unemployed, and manufacturers declare that work cannot be resumed until the price of raw silk falls fifteen per cent. The Prefect of the Rhone has devoted 253,000 from the local funds to the relief of the sufferers. It is believed by many that the business of Lyons will not soon recover, and that the demand for silk fabrics is declining before that for woolens.

The Eastern Question.

TROUBLE IN TURKEY'S COUNCIL—MIDHAT PASHA'S FALL.

CONSTANTINOPLE, February 6.—The dismissal of Midhat Pasha is attributed to his schemes of constitutional reform, which are regarded by the Sultan as encroaching on the imperial prerogative; also, to the discovery of a conspiracy to dethrone the Sultan and replace him by ex Sultan Murad. The deposed Vizier, by command of the Sultan, yesterday visited the palace, and was immediately conveyed aboard the imperial yacht, which sailed for the Mediterranean with orders to land him beyond Turkish territory.

The police have discovered secret correspondence showing that Midhat Pasha was plotting for the overthrow of the Sultan and his own nomination as dictator.

AN OUTBREAK IN CRETE FORESHADOWED.

CONSTANTINOPLE, February 6.—The Turkish Ambassador in Rome has notified the Porte that arms for Crete are being purchased in Italy. The Turkish garrison in the island has consequently been strengthened.

RUSSIAN IRONCLAD FLEET FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN.

BERLIN, February 6.—It is said that a formidable Russian ironclad squadron will enter the Mediterranean in the spring. The Grand Duke Constantine will command, and Admiral Papaff will be his Chief-of-Staff.

TURKEY'S CONDITIONS ACCEPTABLE TO SERVIA.

VIENNA, February 6.—The *Politische Correspondenze* states that the Porte has proposed the following conditions to Servia, waiving the former claims for substantial guarantees: First, the right of being diplomatically represented at Belgrade; second, that Catholics and Jews shall enjoy the same rights as native Servians; third, Servia shall not allow the formation of armed bands on the violation of Turkish territory; fourth, the existence of secret societies shall not be permitted; fifth, that Servian fortresses shall be kept in good repair, and finally, that the Turkish flag shall be hoisted upon those fortresses jointly with the Servian flag. The *Politische Correspondenze* says Servia will doubtless accept these conditions, and send a special commissioner to Constantinople.

THE DOWNFALL OF MIDHAT PASHA AND THE REASONS THEREFOR.

LONDON, February 6.—A special from Constantinople to the *Pall Mall Gazette* says: The cause of Midhat Pasha's fall dates from some time back. The imperious character of Midhat Pasha clashed with the firmness of the Sultan, whose liberal views went far ahead of Midhat's. The Constitution disappointed the Sultan by the multiplicity of its reserves and qualifications, and many warm discussions occurred between the Sovereign and his minister. The Sultan desired to introduce a largely foreign element into the Turkish administration, and especially to employ Englishmen in leading positions in all departments. His Majesty expressed this desire to Midhat Pasha very strongly on several occasions, and last week took him sternly to task for not having acted upon it. Midhat replied curtly, and wrote subsequently to the Sultan in undeferential terms. On Friday last the Sultan sent for Midhat, but the summons was not obeyed. On Saturday Midhat Pasha remained at home on the plea of indisposition. On Sunday a third summons was disobeyed, but Midhat Pasha attended the ministerial council in the afternoon. Meanwhile the police discovered secret correspondence which showed that Midhat Pasha was plotting for the overthrow of the Sultan and his own nomination as dictator. On Monday a peremptory summons brought Midhat Pasha to the palace, suspecting nothing. On entering he was arrested and his letters laid before him. There was no gainsaying the evidence, and he asked for mercy. A council of ministers was called, and Midhat Pasha was offered the choice of leaving the country or being arraigned before the tribunal on a charge of high treason. He elected to leave the country. The letters found disclosed that 3,000 Ulmas were to have gone on Monday night to the palace to demand the abdication of the Sultan. The fall of Midhat Pasha will check no reforms, the Sultan being determined to carry out the Constitution in its fullest spirit.

A NEW RUSSIAN LOAN.

BERLIN, February 6.—A prospectus is published of the 12th inst. of the Russian mortgage credit bonds for 10,000,000 silver rubles. The bonds are to be placed in Amsterdam, Berlin, Frankfort, Brussels, Antwerp and Russia.

SERVIAN NEWSPAPER TALK.

The *Times'* dispatch from Belgrade says it is believed M. Ristics, instead of Magazinovitch, is aspiring to go to Constantinople to reopen negotiations. The correspondent calls attention to the significance of the article in the *Istok*, the Servian official journal. The article disputes the assertion of the *Golos* that Russia did everything possible to restrain Servia from war, and declares without Russian support the Servian press is subject to a strict censor, ships. The article is regarded in Belgrade as an attempt to arouse the sympathy of Russia and excite the indignation of the Turks, so as to induce them to grant more liberal terms. It may accomplish the former but hardly the latter purpose. Belgrade is overrun with volunteers, and officers are busy organizing and equipping them for Gladova. Despite Servia's exhaustion, a few thousand pounds from Russia would enable the War Department to turn out a corps of 20,000 picked men.

LATER.—Weriem Effendi, special envoy from the Porte to Prince Milan, has arrived at Semlin. The authorities of Belgrade have given orders for his reception. His arrival is a delay. No formalities will render unnecessary, the sending of a deputation to Constantinople, as has been proposed.

RUSSIAN ARMY ORDERED TO ADVANCE.

LONDON, February 6.—The Paris correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphs that he is informed that the Russian army has received orders to advance, and will cross the Pruth within a few days.

A dispatch from Constantinople to the *Standard* reports that the British ambassador Bittern, which was about to quit Constantinople, has been detained by order of the English Charge d'Affaires for the protection of foreigners.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* says that Midhat Pasha's fall was occasioned by his refusal to conclude peace with Servia unless Turkey received guarantees. As a resumption of hostilities was probable in consequence of this resolute policy, the old contest party induced the Sultan to supersede Midhat. Unless the Sultan changes his mind, Edhem Pasha's administration will only pave the way for a Cabinet with a decidedly warlike programme.

Great Britain.

A DISASTROUS STRIKE THREATENED.

LONDON, February 6.—The worst apprehensions are felt of the strike of the Durham colliers, in consequence of the differences with the masters not the result of arbitration awards. The strike will directly affect from thirty to forty thousand men, and involve the stoppage of the Cleveland iron industry.

THE TABLES TURNED AT MANCHESTER.

MANCHESTER, February 6.—At a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce yesterday, the President stated that the exports of Manchester goods to the United States, which formerly afforded an excellent market, were now nil, and that there is a considerable trade in Manchester in cotton fabrics manufactured in Africa.

ANOTHER SPIRITUALIST SENT TO JAIL.

LONDON, February 6.—The Court of Exchequer has affirmed the decision of the Huddersfield magistrates, convicting Dr. Monck, the spiritualist medium, under the vagrant act, and sentencing him to three months' imprisonment.

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THE INDIAN WAR.

General Miles Wins a Decisive Victory

Crazy Horse's Band Badly Whipped.

CHICAGO, February 6.—A St. Paul dispatch received to-day officially at military headquarters here, says: The following is just received *via* Bozeman and Helena:

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF MISSOURI, CANTONMENT ON STONES, January 29, 1877.—I have the honor to report that this command fought the hostile tribes of Cheyenne and Ogallala Sioux, under Crazy Horse, in a skirmish on the first and seventh of January, and in a five hours' engagement on the 8th inst. Their camp, some 600 lodges, extended three miles along the valley of Tongue river below Hanging Woman's creek. They were driven through the canons of the Wolfer Panther Mountains in the direction of the Big Horn Mountains. Their fighting strength outnumbered mine two or three to one, but by taking advantage of the ground we had them at a disadvantage, and their losses are known to be very severe. Our loss was three killed and eight wounded. They fought entirely dismounted, and charged on foot to within fifty yards of Captain Casey's line, but were taken in front and flank by Captain Butler's and Lieutenant McDonald's companies. They were whipped at every point and driven from the field, and pursued as far as my limited supplies and worn down animals would carry my command. The Indians appear to have plenty of arms and ammunition, but otherwise are in a destitute condition. Some of the prisoners now in our hands were captured with frozen limbs, and were living on horse meat. The weather has been very severe, the snow from one to three feet. The command is in good condition.

[Signed] NELSON A. MILES,
Commanding.

General Terry appends a brief note in the dispatch, highly commendatory of the activity and efficiency of Miles' campaign.

SAN FRANCISCO, February 6.—A dispatch from Tuscon, Arizona, states that the Apaches are killing and plundering the settlers in Southeastern Arizona. Ten were killed in Senorita Valley on the 4th inst., and the work is still going on. Governor Safford has sent a message to the Legislature, recounting the depredations and murders committed, dwelling on the inefficient manner in which military operations are being conducted, the troops moving slowly when they could be made able to catch the more mobile enemy. He recommends the Legislature to memorialize the Secretary of War, asking the appointment of a body of Indian scouts to operate with troops, or else appropriate money to raise and equip a force of whites and friendly Indians and carry on a vigorous campaign. He says military operations have been conducted for the last six months, the whole army of the United States could not subdue the hostiles in ten years, while believes that a company party of twenty-five citizens and as many Indians auxiliary could accomplish the work in three months. He expresses the fear that under the present condition of affairs, Southeastern Arizona must be abandoned by the settlers. The success of the hostiles is liable to induce an outbreak among the reservation Indians, resulting in a general war.

TELEGRAPHIC PERSONALS.

Thomas R. Agnew, a grocer of Vesey street, New York, has been adjudicated a voluntary bankrupt. Liabilities estimated at $884,000; assets $460,000—principally real estate.

James Aiden, Rear Admiral United States Navy, died in San Francisco yesterday morning, after a few days' illness of congestion of the brain. He had been there a few weeks on a visit.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

Roberts, the Counterfeiter, Pardoned.

Probability of Passage of the Texas Pacific Bill.

Death of Rear Admiral James Alden.

Captain Eads' Money Not Forthcoming.

New Spanish Treaty Favorably Received.

Probable Ratification of the Inter-Oceanic Canal Treaty.

The River and Harbor Bill Completed.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 6, 1877.

Counterfeiter Pardoned.

A pardon has been granted by the President to Lewis M. Roberts, *alias* Bob Altic, *alias* Bob, convicted in Pittsburgh in 1871 and sentenced to twenty years in the Western Penitentiary for counterfeiting. The pardon, it is stated, was procured by ex-Assistant United States Attorney Knox.

Another Wanted.

The notorious Tom Ballard, the engraver of the most dangerous counterfeit plate extant, a $500 Treasury note, who was convicted and sentenced by United States Judge Wallace, in January, 1875, at Albany, New York, to thirty years' imprisonment in the Albany Penitentiary, has an application on file here for pardon.

Joyce Not to be Pardoned.

It is reported that the sentence of Joyce, of the St. Louis whisky ring, that though cumulative sentences to the amount of upwards of three years still remain, but two years will hold. He will not be pardoned.

Chances of the Texas Pacific Bill Good.

The House Judiciary Committee having decided to report a resolution recommending the interposition of the Presidential quesion in the way of legislative business, pending the deliberations of the tribunal, presents a favorable prospect for the Texas Pacific bill on next Monday. The friends of the measure are very sanguine of its passage then.

Death of Rear Admiral Alden.

A dispatch received at the Navy Department late this afternoon announced the death of Rear Admiral James Alden, at San Francisco. The cause of his death is not stated. He had been complaining before his departure from this city, and visited California for the benefit of his health. The dispatch states that he is being embalmed and will be sent East immediately. Admiral Alden was a native of Maine, and entered the service in 1828, since which time he has served forty-four years of sea service. His career in the late war was exceptionally brilliant, and he was one of the most popular officers in the navy. His last sea service was in command of the European fleet.

Captain Eads' Money.

The Senate Committee on Appropriations to-day reported in favor of the payment of the first instalment to Captain Eads in bonds, with a strong recommendation in favor of its passage. The report is approved by members of the committee, except two, and will be opposed by the latter in the Senate. In view of the action of the House, which favors payment in money, it is extremely doubtful if the report of the committee will be sustained. The argument of Captain Eads before the committee was to the effect that if before the Secretary of War issued the last instalment he had appropriated the money, that would have settled the claim; but not having done so, he is entitled to the bonds. He also says that he has an additional claim from the fact that which formerly afforded an excellent market, were now nil, and that there is a considerable trade in Manchester in cotton fabrics manufactured in Africa.

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FURTHER TESTIMONY BY CLERKS OF THE RETURNING BOARD.

The House Louisiana sub-committee today examined Charles S. Abell, a resident of New Orleans since 1871; was secretary of the late Louisiana Returning Board; clerk for Littlefield; I recommended him as clerk for the board at his [Littlefield's] request.

Senator McDonald objected to the questions, on the ground that the witness could not be expected to break down the testimony of their own witness.

The objection was overruled, and the witness continued: From the parish of Vernon there were no returns received as from commissioners; only I knew of the publication of the notice of the supervisor from there; dined with the board on Sunday, the 3d of December; when we returned from the office of the board Littlefield was at his table; after the House committee arrived Littlefield told witness he had destroyed the Vernon papers; he said no one ordered them to do so; knew of no necessity; our loss was three killed and eight wounded. They fought entirely dismounted, and charged on foot to within fifty yards of Captain Casey's line, but were taken in front and flank by Captain Butler's and Lieutenant McDonald's companies. They were whipped at every point and driven from the field, and pursued as far as my limited supplies and worn down animals would carry my command. The Indians appear to have plenty of arms and ammunition, but otherwise are in a destitute condition. Some of the prisoners now in our hands were captured with frozen limbs, and were living on horse meat. The weather has been very severe, the snow from one to three feet. The command is in good condition.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., February 6, 1877.

FURTHER TESTIMONY BY CLERKS OF THE RETURNING BOARD.

The House Louisiana sub-committee today examined Charles S. Abell, a resident of New Orleans since 1871; was secretary of the late Louisiana Returning Board; clerk for Littlefield; I recommended him as clerk for the board at his [Littlefield's] request.

Senator McDonald objected to the questions, on the ground that the witness could not be expected to break down the testimony of their own witness.

The objection was overruled, and the witness continued: From the parish of Vernon there were no returns received as from commissioners; only I knew of the publication of the notice of the supervisor from there; dined with the board on Sunday, the 3d of December; when we returned from the office of the board Littlefield was at his table; after the House committee arrived Littlefield told witness he had destroyed the Vernon papers; he said no one ordered them to do so; knew of no necessity; our loss was three killed and eight wounded. They fought entirely dismounted, and charged on foot to within fifty yards of Captain Casey's line, but were taken in front and flank by Captain Butler's and Lieutenant McDonald's companies. They were whipped at every point and driven from the field, and pursued as far as my limited supplies and worn down animals would carry my command. The Indians appear to have plenty of arms and ammunition, but otherwise are in a destitute condition. Some of the prisoners now in our hands were captured with frozen limbs, and were living on horse meat. The weather has been very severe, the snow from one to three feet. The command is in good condition.

[Signed] NELSON A. MILES,
Commanding.

General Terry appends a brief note in the dispatch, highly commendatory of the activity and efficiency of Miles' campaign.

SAN FRANCISCO, February 6.—A dispatch from Tuscon, Arizona, states that the Apaches are killing and plundering the settlers in Southeastern Arizona. Ten were killed in Senorita Valley on the 4th inst., and the work is still going on. Governor Safford has sent a message to the Legislature, recounting the depredations and murders committed, dwelling on the inefficient manner in which military operations are being conducted, the troops moving slowly when they could be made able to catch the more mobile enemy. He recommends the Legislature to memorialize the Secretary of War, asking the appointment of a body of Indian scouts to operate with troops, or else appropriate money to raise and equip a force of whites and friendly Indians and carry on a vigorous campaign. He says military operations have been conducted for the last six months, the whole army of the United States could not subdue the hostiles in ten years, while believes that a company party of twenty-five citizens and as many Indians auxiliary could accomplish the work in three months. He expresses the fear that under the present condition of affairs, Southeastern Arizona must be abandoned by the settlers. The success of the hostiles is liable to induce an outbreak among the reservation Indians, resulting in a general war.

TELEGRAPHIC PERSONALS.

Thomas R. Agnew, a grocer of Vesey street, New York, has been adjudicated a voluntary bankrupt. Liabilities estimated at $884,000; assets $460,000—principally real estate.

James Aiden, Rear Admiral United States Navy, died in San Francisco yesterday morning, after a few days' illness of congestion of the brain. He had been there a few weeks on a visit.

HARRISBURG.

Proceedings of the Legislature.

Bill for the Intermediate Prison.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, Pa., February 6, 1877.

SENATE.

The Senate met at eight o'clock. The House resolution referring to final adjournment March 15th was received and referred to the Committee on Finance.

A large number of petitions favoring the passage of a local option law were presented.

The following bills were introduced:

By Mr. Corbett, authorizing gas and water companies to borrow money and issue bonds.

By Mr. Newmyer (for Mr. Gazzam), an act authorizing the congregation of the First Presbyterian church, Pittsburgh, to make a change in its cemetery.

A communication was received from the Governor appointing Robert H. Davis and George A. Kelly Inspectors of the Western Penitentiary, and Joseph Buffington Notary Public at Kittanning.

Adjourned.

HOUSE.

The House met at ten o'clock. The following bills were reported favorably:

Referring to fees of the Sheriff and Prothonotary of Armstrong county.

An act providing the manner of election and term of service of members of the Central Board of Education in cities of the second class, providing for their election every three years.

Repealing the Salt Lick township, Fayette county, road law.

Increasing the pensions of soldiers of 1812.

Fixing the time of holding elections for officers of cities, wards, boroughs, townships, independent school districts or other municipalities.

Mr. Billingsley introduced an act to regulate tolls of navigation companies. This bill has special reference to the Monongahela Slackwater Navigation Company.

Mr. Long presented a petition of refiners and citizens of Allegheny county praying the bill designed for the protection of life and property from oil explosions.

Providing for the payment of school teachers while attending their respective annual county meetings.

The following bill was introduced by Mr. Graham: An act to establish an intermediate prison in connection with the Western Penitentiary, to be known as the Riverside Intermediate Prison.

Several bills on third reading or final passage were considered, when one, an act to authorize the clerks of the orphan's courts, and courts of quarter sessions and oyer and terminer to fix bail, and approve of bonds in certain cases, was passed; two lost and two laid over.

Communications were received from the State Librarian and Superintendent of Public Printing, saying that the clerical force in their departments could not be reduced.

Adjourned.

Major Phillips, George A. Kelly and T. B. Nevin appeared before the Appropriation Committee this afternoon in the interest of the Penitentiary bill. They ask for $75,-000 to begin with.

The Pardon Board is in session to-day.

The General Judiciary Committee of the House this afternoon agreed to report affirmatively the Judicial Salary bill. Allegheny county judges fixed at $7,000.

FEBRUARY 6, 1877.

GABBLE.

The Famous Cipher Dispatch to Tilden Translated—Governor Grover the Original "Gabble."

DETROIT, February 6.—The *Tribune* of this city will contain, to morrow morning, a perfect translation of the famous "Gabble" cipher dispatch sent to Tilden from Portland, Oregon, December 1. It is as follows:

"I shall decide every point in the case of the postoffice elector in favor of the highest democratic electors, and grant the certificate accordingly. Rule on the morning of the 6th; consequence confidential."

The demonstration is perfect. A copy of a peculiar pocket edition of an English dictionary was used, and the *Tribune* states that it has good reason to know that this particular book was in Portland at that time, and in whose possession it was. The *Tribune* took the dictionary and translated the cipher, word by word, as above given, according to the key furnished.

VERONA.

Answer to That "Important Paper."

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

On my return to the city to-day, I was show, a communication in your issue of Saturday, February 3d, 1877, styled "An Important Paper," and purporting to show that the officers of Verona borough were trying to get the Legislature to cover up certain illegal acts. I have seen several of the signers of this paper, and they say they signed a paper which they thought was a petition to build a bridge over Plum creek. This paper was circulated around the borough, and out of two hundred voters received the signatures of twenty. At least five of these twenty thought it was a petition for the bridge as stated above. For the benefit of the bondholders of Verona, I will say that instead of being between $20,000 and $30,000 in debt, it is but $8,500—and for every one of the bonds the borough received dollar for dollar, and no officer, either directly or indirectly, received the benefit of one dollar, which was shown in the injunction case before Judge Ewing. He [the judge] in a hearing dismissed the injunction so far as the street bonds were concerned, which are $6,000 of the $8,500. In 1872, $1,000 were issued, but no question was ever raised about them. The other $1,500 were issued, and a site purchased for a town hall. The property was purchased from a nonresident of the borough, who was subpœnaed to Verona, by the Auditors of the Borough, and cross-examined by their attorney, T. Rambo, of the firm of DeCamp & Rambo, as to whether there was not some arrangement made at the time he purchased the property, as to its being sold to the borough at the proper time. Under oath he stated, without any hesitation whatever, that at the time of the purchase it was not so. Two liveries, 9 and Hangers, 8 second-hand Boilers, a 6-horse Engine and Boiler very cheap, 3 Engine Lathes, at GEO. CARLIN'S, 186 Lacock street, Allegheny.

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1877.

JUDGE MACKEY, of South Carolina, who holds his seat illegally, has decided that HAMPTON is the legal Governor of that State.

HENRY CLAY said he would rather be right than President. Governor HAYES could also say to Governor TILDEN, "I had rather be decent than be President."

IT IS a good thing to know that JERRY BLACK gives up the Presidency to HAYES, and says the commission will so decide. It is BLACK'S misfortune as well as his fault always to be on the wrong side; and when he gives up, his case may be said to be hopeless.

IT IS rather singular, is it not, that the Democratic papers expect all the non-partisanship in the Electoral Commission to be shown by the Republican members? It has never once been suggested that any one of the Democratic commissioners should rise above party. Such a thing is not expected of any one of them.

THE long disputed question as to who set fire to Richmond, Virginia, at the time of its evacuation by the rebel forces in 1865, has at length been definitely settled by the admission of General EWELL that it was done under his express orders, in obedience to a statute of the Confederate Congress requiring the officer in command there to set fire to the city whenever it fell into the hands of the Union forces.

IT IS very significant, says the Louisville *Commercial*, that all the rascals who wanted to sell out, all the rascals who thought they could induce somebody to sell out, and all the rascals who thought they could make money by acting as go-betweens—political pimps and panderers—run as naturally to Mr. TILDEN and his confidential friends as a duck runs to water. No such rascals ran to HAYES or his friends with their disgraceful propositions.

THE tone of the Democratic leaders, regarding the Presidential succession, is just now a good deal like the speech of the lame captain, who told his soldiers that they were sure of victory, they must fight for it to the last drop of blood, they had better have death than dishonor; but, still, if they found themselves overpowered, they had better retreat in good order, and, as he was lame, he would run at once. Judge BLACK has already started.

IS THERE a Street Committee in our City Councils? While the snow spread its charitable mantle over the foul accumulations and the winter wind checked their decomposition, the actual extent of the city's defilement could only be guessed, and was probably not even suspected by the great majority of the people. It is, however, apparent now to the most careless or casual observer, and no words can unduly magnify the danger, in a sanitary sense, of the situation.

IT HAS leaked out that FIELDS' main witness in the Louisiana case, MADDOX, spent the evening before the day he appeared before the committee in the company of HEWITT, PELTON and other Democratic leaders, and was put through a course of instruction by FIELD. There is a very serious question whether this man FIELD has not been guilty of grave violations of the privileges of the House in this and similar proceedings, and that body ought to take cognizance of the matter without delay.

THIS is what "Gath," himself a staunch supporter of TILDEN, has to say concerning the suborned and perjured Louisiana witnesses before FIELD'S committee:

> The fact about Pickett, Maddox and company is that they belong to the class of John Surratt and Atzerodt—trading spies from lower Maryland to the rebel lines. Such fellows, like discharged detectives, sniff another opportunity in the yellow fever business of politics. They are the surplus Blackburns who have got rid of pestilence as a commodity and have taken up investigation as a substitute for it.

THE Democratic election judges of Hinds county, Mississippi, made good use of their duplicate ballot-box keys to pull out Republican ballots and substitute Democratic ones. The total vote was 5,977, against 5,554 in 1872, but the Republican vote sunk from 4,015 to 1,474, and the Democratic vote increased from 1,539 to 4,503. Frauds of this sort were perpetrated in every Republican county in the State. The Democratic press makes no mention of this scoundrelism. They would have to palliate it, somehow, if they did, and they know that painting a hearse white only makes it look all the more ghastly.

DEBT is the devil's saddle, and he seems to have got it pretty thoroughly girthed on a number of the more expensive and showy churches of New York city. The correspondent of the Philadelphia *Ledger* says there is good authority for the statement that the total of church indebtedness to-day is not less than $2,000,000 in New York alone, and that if Brooklyn, Jersey City and other suburbs be added the total is not far from $2,500,000. The sooner this load is reduced the better for the churches, which are losing their congregations and absorbing moneys for interest that otherwise would go to pay their poor missionaries, who have a hard time getting their salaries. People must be content with fewer costly edifices and try somehow to build them without running so deeply into debt. It is not the weakness of any particular denomination, but of all. The only wonder is, not that so many churches languish under such mountains of financial obligations, but that they exist at all.

UNDER the present revenue laws of the State it is stated that there never has been a dollar of taxes collected from the Adams Express Company in this State. Here is the greatest corporation in the world; its supposed rights and franchises ramifying into every nook and corner of Pennsylvania, and receiving for its labors hundreds of thousands per annum, and yet it has never paid any taxes. The Revenue bill now before the Legislature compels the payment of the tax on its receipts in this State, which will doubtless amount to a handsome figure. The same thing can be said of the Western Union Telegraph Company. Never has there been a dollar received from this immense corporation until the past year, when, by dint of perasistency, the State officers succeeded in getting about $500. Under this act they will have to step up to the captain's office and settle by the thousands. The various small railroad, steamship and steamboat companies, who never have declared and who never will declare a dividend, will be compelled to pay the State some tax.

THE sublime parade of unblushing "cheek" made by CHARLES O'CONOR when he called to pay his respects to a President whom he had only lately described as a drunken tanner picked up out of the gutters of Galena, was fitly accompanied by the exhibition made of himself by the same CHARLES O'CONOR before the High Joints, sitting in commission upon the Presidential question, associated, as he was, with another impersonation of unbounded impudence, JEREMIAH S. BLACK. Both of these men stood upon the doctrine—the one as Attorney General of the United States and the other as the leader of his party in New York city—that there was no power in this Government to save it from destruction, and both of them appeared before the commission to demand that an open sympathizer with treason, like themselves, should be declared elected President. They thought the Government not worth saving when LINCOLN was elected, and they are ready to doom it anew to destruction, now, if they cannot succeed in foisting TILDEN into the Presidency. It is plain that neither of the two will ever die of modesty.

THE evidence is all in which shows that TILDEN sent $22,500 to Oregon to secure the substitution of a Democratic for a Republican elector; that he also sent $7,500 to Cincinnati to secure enough fraudulent votes to elect two Democratic Congressmen; that Mr. CHILD, of South Carolina, acting in TILDEN'S interest, offered BEVERLY NASH, a Republican elector, $50,000 for his vote for TILDEN; that Judge LAVESSE, a Republican elector in Louisiana, was offered by a Democrat $100,000 if he would vote for TILDEN, and that General W. B. ANDERSON, a member of the Louisiana Returning Board, was offered $200,000 by a Democratic Senator if he would give the electoral vote of Louisiana to TILDEN. All these are *proved* cases of Democratic bribery, and no one of them has yet been controverted successfully. Yet, in the face of all this, we are asked to believe that the Louisiana Returning Board offered to sell the electoral vote of the State for a million and that the offer was rejected! We are also asked to believe, in the face of these facts, that the Returning Board were the only villains, and that the Democrats were the only honest people!

That MADDOX and PICKETT offered a million to WELLS for the vote of Louisiana, we have no doubt, because the evidence in all the other cases we have cited tends to sustain that view; but that such a proposition came from WELLS is preposterous. There is no evidence to prove it but that of MADDOX and PICKETT; and both of these miserable creatures are such well known scoundrels that it is impossible to put faith in what they say. The evidence of TITUS OATES in the Popish Plot cases was far more credible.

IN VIEW of the probability that with the approach of spring hostilities will break out between Russia and Turkey, the New York *Mail* sensibly suggests that Congress ought to do something toward protecting Americans abroad by repealing the law of last session, abolishing a number of Eastern consulates. The motive of the law may have been a laudable one, in seeking to curtail the paid consulates and thus economize Government expenses. But by abolishing the consulates, many consular agencies, the heads of which were appointed by the abolished consuls were also vacated, and the result has been to leave a number of places of importance without any American representative. Several instances of the evil results of this have lately been made public, one of which will suffice as an illustration. A citizen of the United States, now in New York city, went on a visit in September last to the Island of Crete. Upon presenting his passport to the police authorities there, he was told that, as there was no one who could vouch for the genuineness of its signatures, he could not go ashore. The protection of the British Consul was then sought, and given, which brought matters to a satisfactory end, and he was permitted to land. But a single case of this kind shows the importance of having some one to look after American interests in every place of any consequence throughout the Orient. Certainly it behooves the United States to take all precautions in advance; that, in case of war in that quarter, its citizens shall suffer as little as possible.

A DISPATCH to the New York *Herald*, from Pottsville, in this State, says:

> The courts here having disposed of the Molly Maguires, have had leisure lately to try other cases, and this week has been occupied with two embezzlement cases, in both of which the accused were young married men of social prominence and bright prospects in life. In both cases the seductive influence of wine, women and song was too strong to be resisted, and honor, home, life and social position were flung away for evanescent joys.

Here follows the history of these two cases, which resulted in sending both criminals to the penitentiary, ruined, probably, for life. Neither of these cases, it will be noted, had any thing to do with politics or office, and the same thing is true of about a dozen similar cases of embezzlement or untrustworthiness in New York. The office-holder who proves corrupt is held up as a mark for general execration; but the corrupt man in private life, who embezzles, or squanders the funds of a corporation or of a trust, scarcely causes a remark. All of which merely goes to show that a much higher standard of judgment is applied in one case than in the other. It is true that, occasionally, a small embezzler, like these poor Pottsville toads, gets caught under the harrow; but as a general rule they escape everything except the momentary mention of their crime, which causes a slight ripple of sensation, and a general shrugging of shoulders, and is straightway forgotten.

CAPTAIN HOWGATE'S plan for reaching the North Pole is warmly indorsed in scientific quarters, where its ultimate success is considered to be only a question of hardy men, brave hearts and cheerful dispositions. We doubt the practical use of a northwest passage, but still its discovery would probably lead to the better demonstration of a number of scientific subjects, particularly that regarding the question of tertiary man. He could hardly have originated at the foot of the glacier. The ice probably met him toward the close of the tertiary, in the northern parts of Asia and America and forced him southward; or, at a later time, found him on the main belt of this continent. The tertiary origin of man is presupposed from the fact that he had submitted to a race-modification fitting him to endure the cold. Some support for this view may be found in examining Northern strata; but it must be borne in mind that the North has never been free from ice since the close of the Pliocene to this day. With the thinking minds of the race the origin of man is the question of the century.

JAMES M. CORTWRIGHT, ex-Treasurer of Luzerne county, who pleaded guilty of embezzlement, was on Saturday sentenced to two years and six months in the county jail; A. J. WILLIAMS, ex-County Commissioner, who pleaded guilty of extortion, was fined $100 and costs; T. M. NAGLE and PATRICK LYNCH, both ex-clerks in the Commissioners' office, who pleaded guilty of conspiracy to defraud, were each sentenced to four months' imprisonment and fined $1,625 and costs. All of these gentlemen, be it remembered, are Democrats; and in addition to those here named, we may mention that BEAMISH, late Collector of School Taxes at Scranton, and a defaulter for $10,000, is a fugitive from justice, and that GUNSTER, the present Democratic Treasurer of Scranton, has voluntarily paid a large sum to the State Treasury which was stolen by his Democratic clerk. And this is the party which the "Reformers" of this section propose to put in power in this city!

THE foreign commerce of Boston this winter has been very light, so far as it was carried on in sailing vessels. Not a single ship arrived at that port during the month of January, and at the present time there is but one ship in port.

IN the trial at Albany a few days ago of the Allegany (N. Y.) students for illegal voting, Judge Wallace held "that no student has a right to vote in the place or town where the college he is attending is located, unless he has gained a legal residence there previous to such attendance, or will make oath that it is his intention to make such place his residence on the completion of his studies."

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

A tremendous temperance movement is in progress at Trenton, New Jersey.

The "Quindecemvirate." This is the latest name for the Fateful Fifteen.

Baltimore now boasts of a new weekly journal called the *Southern Bulldozer*.

The rinderpest in England and Germany means increased importation of American beef.

Newspaper readers will now have to be bored with the condition of the peach crop for the next three months.

The Supreme Court of Tennessee has decided that railroad property in the State is subject to State, county and municipal taxation.

"To-Let." Some of the Broadway, New York, stores are now offered for hundreds instead of their former rent of thousands.

The insurance companies propose to rebuild the Indianapolis Academy of Music, lately destroyed, rather than pay the insurance thereon.

The crews of ten English vessels are at present inhabiting the alleys of New York city without food or shelter, and in a half-famished condition.

There's a cheerful side even to the great Brooklyn fire. The coroners got $8,562 for fees, which is the largest sum that any American inquest ever yielded.

Hen-roost robbery has been raised to something like dignity by the operations of a Maine family, a father and three sons having stolen more than 2,000 fowls, besides other property.

The business agent of Talmage's Chicago weekly paper has given up and retreated in good order to the toy business. Playthings pay better than papers of the weakly religious sort.

A noteworthy incident of the coal trade last week was the purchase of 1,000 tons of Newcastle, to be shipped from England at $3 62½ gold, delivered into carts in New York city, free of all expense.

Boston is getting united in prayer. The boot and shoe men and provision dealers and other branches of trade pray together, and neighborhood prayer meetings are to be found in every part of the city.

People who travel by steamboat will be pleased with the recent action of the supervising inspectors requiring a special permit for every excursion party, and a watchman on duty at the wheel at night.

Dynamite cartridges are now substituted in portions of France for pulverizing the soil in place of plows. The time has really come when our cartridges are being beaten into plow-shares and pruning-hooks.

A live potato bug having been discovered recently in Bremen, the German Government has again issued a circular urging all captains of vessels to use proper precautions against the importation of the dreaded pest.

People who have political aspirations should write a legible hand. One of the Houses of the Nevada Legislature has been compelled to discharge its enrolling clerk simply because his penmanship could not be read.

A perfectly white ink has now been manufactured, which flows freely from a fine or course pen, makes a delicate hair line, and dries quickly. This ink requires dark paper, and several styles have already been introduced.

The total value of last year's cotton crop of 4,250,000 bales was about $250,000,000, but the corn crop of 1,596,000,000 bushels, at the average price of about forty-five cents a bushel, is worth to this country no less than $588,000,000.

The six tons of gold coin that lately arrived in New York from San Francisco was part of a little hoard that Bonanza Keene, Senator Jones and ex-Governor Stamford have resolved to devote to speculations in Wall street.

The two towers of the Cologne Cathedral, which are now approaching their completion, will be the loftiest towers in the world. Their height will be 151 metres. A metre is 39.37 inches, or a little more than a yard.

As an example of Vanderbilt's economy in little things, the New York *Express* says that a few years ago he caused the bright plates on all his locomotives to be painted black in order to save burnishing. But what became of the burnishers?

Beecher defends the ministers for not preaching more science, because the scientists are not always on the plane of a lead certainty, and there's no sense in preaching anything which may be proved out and kicked out in a twelvemonth.

There will be no excuse for dear ice this summer. The crop everywhere has been the best for years. All the ice houses are full and many temporary structures have been improvised to hold the excess of the crop that could not be stored in the usual way.

The New York papers complain that the city streets "have become quagmires of pasty mud, and the sidewalks and crossings are covered with a villainous sloppy mixture." And yet New York is taxed $2,000 a day for cleaning the thoroughfares.

In Great Britain, during the past ten years, the death-rate of small-pox has increased over eighty-six per cent. This is a fact which ought to attract the attention of the physicians of this country before there is occasion to note a similar increase on this side of the water.

The resident engineer of the Mississippi jetties says that the increased flood in the river is rapidly scouring the bottom. The channel through the jetties at the mouth of the pass is twenty-one feet deep, with a width of two hundred feet, in which no depth less than twenty feet is found.

Warm times are at hand in Lockport, New York. A company has been formed for heating a portion of the city half a mile square, by steam, the expenses being estimated at one-fourth less than by private fires. The steam is generated in boilers and led by pipes from house to house.

A certain Kansas paper has taken wood, potatoes, corn, eggs, butter, onions, cabbages, chickens, stone, lumber, labor, sand, calico, sauercraut, second-hand clothing, coon skins and bug juice on subscriptions, in its time, and now a man wants to know if it will send the paper six months for a large owl.

Mansfield Island, in Lake Erie, has been bought by a man who intends to stock it with black cats and kill their progeny for their fur. He will feed them at first on fish caught off the shore by men who will live on the island, but after the enterprise is well started he will utilize the meat of the slaughtered cats as food for the living ones.

As an evidence that the quality of railroad iron in market has deteriorated of late years, it is stated that some old rails are in use on the Louisville, New Albany and Chicago road, but they are rapidly against the severity of this extraordinary hard winter. In no instance has one of these old rails broken, while the new ones snap easily.

The recent heavy rains on the Upper Mississippi, on the St. Croix and Rum rivers have played havoc with the hauling of logs to the streams. The snow has disappeared, and the ground has become so heavy that the lumbermen have abandoned all long hauls, and are confining themselves to bank timber.

Some one who has plenty of leisure has counted the letters of the Bible, and finds that in the sixty-six books of which the sacred volume is composed there are 3,586,489 letters. The longest verse is the ninth verse of the eighth chapter of John, xi., 35. The center verse is Psalms cxviii., 8. These facts are important to the curiosity monger, but are of no further value. He reads the Bible to very little purpose who learns only such things.

A recent examination of various specimens of dust in atmospheric air by M. Tissandier reveals the fact that in all cases, and under all circumstances, they contain minute particles of magnetic iron. The same particles are to be found in rain or snow water, even in specimens taken from Mont Blanc, at a height of 2,712 meters above the level of the sea. M. Tissandier believes them to be of cosmical and and not of terrestrial origin, and considers them to be remains of meteoric masses.

PERSONAL.

Two superannuated actors and a superintendent are the sole occupants of the splendidly furnished mansion of Edwin Forrest in Philadelphia which he left as a home for impoverished members of his profession.

To-day is the anniversary of the birthday of Dickens, the Shakespeare of fiction, who was a year younger then Greeley. Three of our Presidents are also on the birth record of this month, Harrison the 9th, Lincoln the 12th, and Washington the 22d.

Adam Forepaugh's elephant, Betsy, who is over eleven feet high, has done a very insignificant thing. She has presented her master with a baby elephant only eighteen inches in height. The youngster enjoys the reputation of being the first of its species born in America. It is a male, and both mother and son are doing well under the circumstances.

At the expense of the fastidious citizens of the American Athens the Chicago *Tribune* prints the following reminiscence of the late Presidential canvass: A young Bostonian who had just returned from Europe besought the Republican managers to let him make a speech. They sent him into the country a few miles from Boston. He began: "Ladies and gentlemen: It must be pleasant for you to have gentlemen come down from Boston to instruct you in regard to the political——." But he got no further.

A notable centenarian death is that of Mrs. Nancy G. Van Rensselaer, widow of General H. K. Van Rensselaer, of Albany, at Randolph, N. Y., aged 102. The old General equipped and commanded a regiment raised from the Van Rensselaer manor, and was wounded in the battle with Burgoynes' army at Fort Ann, N. Y. Since the death of her husband, in 1816, Mrs. Van Rensselaer has lived with her son and has led an active, cheerful life, the immediate cause of her death being an attack of dropsy.

Julia Ward Howe encountered the wrong person at Indianapolis when she was announced to give her lecture on "Polite Society." The story goes that some years ago a lady of Indianapolis met Mrs. Howe in Washington and was introduced to her. Simply recognizing her, Mrs. Howe turned rudely away, and petulantly remarked to her escort, in French, "Will we never have done with these people?" It didn't occur to Mrs. Howe that a Western woman could possibly understand French. But she did, and immediately came to the conclusion that polite society is not always polite.

John King Lovejoy, a relative of Owen Lovejoy, died recently in Nevada. He was a well known character on the Pacific coast, having been an editor and a miner, and many stories are told of him. The Virginia *Enterprise* relates the following: "When conducting a newspaper in Downieville, being in need of funds, he started out through the mountains to get subscribers. He was gone two weeks. When he returned he passed his subscription book over to his partner. It showed a list of subscribers with sums set opposite amounting to some $2,500. All the subscriptions were marked 'paid.' The partner was rejoiced, and told Lovejoy how timely the money would be. 'What money?' asked Lovejoy. 'Why, this money that is subscribed here,' was the reply. 'That money,' said Lovejoy; 'why I used all that up in expenses, and had to borrow money to come home.' Five or six years ago he bet a new coffin with a neighbor that he would live over a year. He said to us afterward: 'It was a good bet. I shall want the wooden overcoat before long, and it will be handy to have it around.'"

The Church and Temperance.

[From the Methodist.]

A bill is now pending in one of our State Legislatures, in favor of what is know as the "Local Option" law. It is desirable that such a law should be enacted—at least that is the general desire of the friends of temperance. The State Temperance Alliance has sent out a request that each church indorse, by vote, a petition to the Legislature, urging the passage of such a bill.

Such a request, at first, seems to be a proper one; but before the churches, as such, comply with it, it would be well to look at the matter in all its bearings.

A Christian church is organized for a distinct purpose, and it loses power when it attempts to go aside from its peculiar mission. To this general proposition all will agree. The province of the church is to promote Christian life in the community. Hence, it should condemn sin—the sin of intemperance for example. It should by wholesome discipline discourage drinking spirituous liquors, and should forbid its members in any way pandering to the depraved appetite for strong drink. Beyond this it ought not to go. It ought not, in our judgment, to attempt, as a church, to secure votes—to fight with bullet, even though a good one, through the State Legislature. It was not for such a purpose that the church was organized.

So be it, a majority of the members of a church may favor the proposed law. As individuals, in their capacities as good citizens, they may lend their time, money and influence to secure its enactment. They may sign petitions to urge the passage of such a law, and secure the names of others—either in the church or out of it. But even a large majority has no right to commit the church to any proposed law, on the merits of which there will be an honest difference of opinion. A minority of one has rights as much as should not be ignored. The power of a majority is limited, and must not be used in a sphere which does not belong to it.

As for the "Local Option" law, it may be a very good and a very wise measure. If so, it ought to pass, and we hope that it will pass. There are objections against it, but we think that there are stronger arguments, and more of them, in its favor. The law in its practical workings may not be as effectual as its originators fondly hope. The liquor party, however, is opposed to it, and that is a very weighty argument in its favor.

Whenever a law is proposed, whatever its merits may be, it is favored by either one of the political parties, or a certain fraction of a political party. It is also used by designing men as a means to advance themselves into place and power. This, however, cannot be avoided. Politicians are glad to have churches commit themselves to any political action. Fortunately, the churches usually turn a deaf ear to the voice of such charmers. Let them turn an equally deaf ear to those people, and let their eyes on a great reform, seek to advance it by measures which in the end will prove injurious. Let the churches attend to their work, and not indorse, as churches, proposed legislation on any subject whatever.

It is an easy thing to misrepresent this article, and say that it is written in opposition to the temperance reform. It is the weakness of zealots that they impute wrong motives to those who do not indorse all that they say and do. We commend to temperance men one caution: It is hardly safe for churches to commit themselves to the principle of authorizing public drinking whenever the local majority favors it. It is a gain to clothe a local majority with power to forbid—and this may be *generally* the best thing for to-day. But the church is bound to maintain the whole of the right, a part of which local option gives away.

The United States Senate.

The Senate of the United States will, after the 4th of March, be composed as indicated below. There will be Republicans, 42; Democrats, 34. Total, 76:

ALABAMA.		MISSISSIPPI.	
1879.	Geo. E. Spencer.	1881.	Branch K. Bruce.
1883.	John T. Morgan.*	1885.	L. Q. C. Lamar.*
ARKANSAS.		MISSOURI.	
1879.	S. W. Dorsey.	1879.	Lewis V. Bogy.*
1883.	A. H. Garland.*	1881.	F. M. Cockrell.*
CALIFORNIA.		NEW HAMPSHIRE.	
1879.	Aaron A. Sargent.	1879.	E. Wadleigh.
1885.	Newton Booth.	1883.	E. H. Rollins.
COLORADO.		NEW JERSEY.	
1881.	J. T. Headley.	1881.	T. F. Randolph.*
1883.	Henry M. Teller.	1883.	J. R. McPherson.*
CONNECTICUT.		NEW YORK.	
1879.	Wm. W. Eaton.*	1879.	Roscoe Conkling.
1881.	Wm. W. Eaton.*	1881.	Francis Kernan.*
DELAWARE.		NEBRASKA.	
1881.	Thos. F. Bayard.*	1881.	A. S. Paddock.
1883.	Eli Saulsbury.*	1883.	Alvin Saunders.
FLORIDA.		NEVADA.	
1879.	S. B. Conover.	1879.	John P. Jones.
1881.	Chas. A. Jones,*	1881.	William Sharon.
GEORGIA.		NORTH CAROLINA.	
1879.	John B. Gordon.*	1879.	A. S. Merrimon. *
1883.	Benj. H. Hill.*	1883.	Mat. W. Ransom.*
ILLINOIS.		OHIO.	
1879.	R. J. Oglesby.	1879.	John Sherman.
1883.	David Davis.*	1881.	A. G. Thurman.*
INDIANA.		OREGON.	
1879.	Oliver P. Morton.	1879.	John H. Mitchel;
1881.	J. E. McDonald.*	1883.	L. F. Grover.*
IOWA.		PENNSYLVANIA.	
1879.	Wm. B. Allison.	1879.	Simon Cameron.
1883.	S. J. Kirkwood.	1881.	Wm. A. Wallace.*
KANSAS.		RHODE ISLAND.	
1879.	John J. Ingalls.	1881.	A. E. Burnside.
1883.	Preston B. Plumb.	1883.	H. B. Anthony.
KENTUCKY.		SOUTH CAROLINA.	
1879.	T. C. McCreery.*	1879.	J. J. Patterson.
1883.	James B. Beck.*	1883.	D. T. Corbin.
LOUISIANA.		TENNESSEE.	
1879.	James P. Lewis.	1881.	James E. Bailey.*
1883.	W. P. Kellogg.	1883.	Isham G. Harris.*
MAINE.		TEXAS.	
1879.	Hannibal Hamlin.	1881.	S. B. Maxey.*
1881.	James G. Blaine.	1883.	Richard Coke.*
MARYLAND.		VERMONT.	
1879.	Geo. R. Dennis.*	1879.	Justin S. Morrill.
1881.	W. P. Whyte.*	1881.	Geo. F. Edmunds.
MASSACHUSETTS.		VIRGINIA.	
1881.	Henry L. Dawes.	1881.	Robt. E. Withers.*
1883.	George F. Hoar.	1883.	J. W. Johnston,*
MICHIGAN.		WEST VIRGINIA.	
1881.	I. P. Christiancy.	1881.	Frank Hereford.*
1883.	Thomas W. Ferry.	1883.	Henry G. Davis.*
MINNESOTA.		WISCONSIN.	
1881.	S. J. R. McMillan.	1879.	Tim. O. Howe.
1883.	William Windom.	1881.	Angus Cameron.

*Democrats.

The New York boarding houses have reduced their prices about one-third as compared with last year. Now investigate the hash.

PROFESSOR TENNEY, of Williams College, three years ago wrote a letter predicting that if the destruction of forests in Berkshire county, Massachusetts, continued as rapidly as it had been going on the water supply would be so lessened as to seriously affect the shops run by water power. The latest number of the Adams (Mass.) *Transcript* reprints the letter, and, to emphasize the truth of the prediction, names four large establishments it that town alone which during the last two or three years have substituted steam for water. It adds: "In a year from now probably every manufacturer in this town will run his mill by steam power."

THE *Daily News*, a spirited little paper published in Chester, mentions that a statement has been made there to the effect that a party of capitalists from Scotland, desirous of shifting their base of operations from the Clyde to the Delaware, have been in Chester looking for a site on which to build a ship-yard, and futher reports that "the property between Roach's ship-yard and Stevenson's has been selected as the place, and work will soon be commenced on the new enterprise," adding "we have plenty of ground for building purposes, and plenty of workmen who would be only too glad to do the building."

LONG ISLAND is getting a bad name. Ever since the Kelsey affair, the people of that region have been going from bad to worse. The meanest exhibition, however, is the last. At Middle Village a man was buried, the other day, by the caving in of a well. The natives flocked around and talked the matter over, but refused to dig the man out, because his wife had not money enough to pay them for the job. We ought to import a few Feejee missionaries to teach these savages the rudiments of humanity.

MRS. Parker, of Dundee, President of the British Women's Temperance Association, who was a delegate to the Women's International Convention held in Philadelphia last year, was received at a public meeting of the association on her return home. In an address which she made describing the temperance work of the women of America, she said that she was much struck by the business capacity of American women. "It was the old story of the talents being used: God gave more as they used them." Mrs. Parker explained that she did not speak of the development of talent in American women to depreciate her sisters in England, but to encourage them in the use of powers which grow by exercise. Her opinion of the business capacity of American women was manifestly based on what she observed of their share in promoting the great Exhibition.

The wife of the late Dr. John C. Lord, the eminent preacher of Buffalo, was an Indian girl, and she took to Buffalo the vigorous training of her camp life. She was a splendid rider. A gentleman who met her at a Northern association to which her husband was a delegate says that she brought with her her guns, dogs and field trappings. The ladies invited her to attend the women's prayer meeting in the morning, but she frankly declined, saying: "I could not think of it. I am going hunting; that is what I came for." And she passed the day in the woods, as she did every day during the meetings.

The Cleveland *Leader* favors "an honest, full-sized silver dollar, worth, at the average price of silver, all that it pretends to be, and made legal tender for any debt, public or private, in which the payment of gold is not prescribed by statute or private agreement."

S. M. Pettengill & Co.,
Advertising Agents,
37 Park Row, New York,
Desire to Call the Attention of Business Men, who wish to reach the Reading Public, to the following
FACTS:

1. They have been in the Advertising business for nearly thirty years, and given it constant attention and study during that time.
2. They have had, and continue to have, cordial business relations with all the newspapers and other periodicals in the United States and Canada.
3. Their record with all these publications is one of fair treatment, honorable dealing and prompt settlements.
4. In consequence of this, they can always have advertisements inserted at the publisher's *lowest rates*.
5. They are so acquainted with the entire press of the country that they can select the *best mediums* or any given purpose.
6. Having done advertising for all kinds of business, and noted the results to their customers, they imagine valuable suggestions as to the *size, style and position* which will make the most effective advertisement for the object to be attained.
7. Having frequent orders for a large number of papers, they call, in most cases, get the work done for *less cost* than the advertiser would have to pay if he sent the order direct.
8. They examine all papers, note all omissions or irregularities, secure the strict fulfillment of every obligation, and submit full files for the inspection of the advertiser.
9. They give the advertiser the full benefit of the facilities and of their supervision *without charge*, a commission being paid by the publishers.
10. They submit estimates for any given list of papers, or for properly covering any given district.
11. For a systematic working up of any large enterprise, they assist in the preparation of circulars, pamphlets and general reading matter, in addition to newspaper advertising.

They have also many parties who contemplate advertising in any way or for any amount.

S. M. PETTENGILL & CO.,
37 Park Row, New York.
701 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.
Centennial Grounds, Philadelphia.
10 State Street, Boston.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,
No. 61 Fourth Ave., Pittsburgh.
CHARTERED IN 1862.
BOARD OF MANAGERS.—George A. Berry, President; John Scott, Jas. Park, Jr., Vice Presidents. A. Bradley, J. D. Graham, A. S. Bell, Wm. R. Nimick, John S. Dilworth, F. Rahm, G. Follansbee, Robert C. Schmertz.
CHAS. G. MILLOR, Secretary and Treasurer.
SOLICITOR—John H. Bailey.

DRY GOODS
James Caldwell & Co.
ARE NOW OFFERING,
AT
VERY LOW PRICES,
A Large Stock of
DOMESTIC & HOUSEKEEPING
GOODS.
9-4 and 10-4 Brown and Bleached Sheetings of all the popular makes.
9-8, 5-4 and 6-4 Pillow Case Muslins.
Fruit of the Loom, Bay Mills, Lonsdale, Wamsutta, Pride of the West and New York Mills Shirting Muslins.
Good 4-4 Bleached Muslin from 6 1-4 to 9c.
Brown and Bleached Damask Table Linens, Towels and Napkins.
A Choice Stock of Hamburg Embroideries.
Marsailles Quilts, Honey Comb and Croquet Quilts very cheap.
New and very Choice Styles in Shirting Prints Cambrics and Percales.
Prints, Chintzes and Ginghams.
Black Cashmeres and Merinos.
Silk Warp Henrietta Cloths.
Cloaks and Furs at very Low Prices, to close out our Winter Stock.
115 and 117
FEDERAL ST.,
ALLEGHENY.

PATENTS.
Persons desiring to procure Patents, or wishing to obtain information from the U. S. Patent Office, are advised to consult F. A. LEHMANN, of Washington, D. C., corner of Seventh and G streets, or 39 Fifth avenue, Pittsburgh. Send for Circular.

DRY GOODS!
1877.
WM. SEMPLE,
Novelties in New
IN
New Fancy Plaid Suitings.
New Striped Suitings.
New shades in Plain Poplins.
New street colors in Plain Alpacas.
New Basket Cloth Suitings.
New and beautiful Brocades.
New Spring colors in Cashmeres.
New Black Cashmeres.
New Black Alpacas and Mohairs.
New Fancy Cassimeres and Cloths.
New Light Fancy Flannels.
New Sacquings and Cloakings.
New Plain, Corded, Striped & Figured P. K.'s.
New Plain, Barred and Striped Nainsooks.
New Plain, Barred and Striped Jaconets.
New White and Colored Swisses.
New White and Colored Tariataines.
New Fancy and Honeycomb Sacquings.
New Black Dress Silks.
New Spring shades in Colored Silks.
New Fancy and Mourning Silks.
New Black and Colored Suits.
New Costumes and Overdresses.
New Morning Wrappers, &c.
New Spring styles Fancy Shawls.
New Broche and Thibet Black Shawls.
New Cashmere Shawls, &c., &c.
New Merino Underwear.
New Muslin Underwear.
New Striped and Cloth Skirts.
New Plain, Tucked and Embroidered Robes.
New Plain, Tucked, Embr'd'r'd Short Dresses
New Slips, &c., for Infants.
New Plain, Tucked, Embr'd'r'd White Waists
New Percale and Calico Waists.
New Percale and Calico Suits, &c.
New Boots, Shoes, Gaiters and Slippers.
New Ready Made Clothing, all kinds.
New Light Overcoats, &c.
All New Spring Goods, Just Opened.
We are now opening beautiful a now appearing, and the unusually act PERIOR INDUCEMENTS we offer in th Our "LADIES' JOURNAL" for F

1877 1877
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THE
Pittsburgh Commercial
FOR 1877.
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THE FARMER,
THE MECHANIC,
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Will contain in condensed form all the
NEWS OF THE DAY,
Including the Proceedings of Congress and of the Legislatures of Neighboring States, Interesting Correspondence, Choice Selections and
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SPECIMEN COPIES SENT FREE.
Address all orders and letters to
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PITTSBURGH, PA.

DRY GOODS!
Wednesday,
165, 167 & 169 F
IS EXHI
Spring Goods & E
IN
New Shirting and Dark Calicos.
New Shirting and Dark Costumes.
New Light and Fancy Percales.
New Fine Shirting Muslins.
New Heavy Sheeting Muslins.
New Twilled and Linen Sheetings.
New Checks and Shirtings.
New Ginghams, Foreign and Imported.
New Ticks and Furniture Chintzes.
New Madder and Turkey Red Tablings.
New Variegated Turkey Red Tablings.
New pink, red, buff, green Damask Cloths.
White Napkins, slightly imperfect, very cheap
New Plain and Colored Napkins.
New short length Irish Linens, half price.
New Loom and Loom Damask Linens.
New Satin Finish Damasks.
New Colored Table Linens.
New all linen Towels at extremely low prices.
New Damask Towels, exceedingly cheap.
New Crashes and Towelings.
New Plain, Striped and Checked Mattings.
New Carpets of all kinds.
New Stair and Floor Oil Cloths.
New Window Shadings and Blinds.
New Damask Curtains and Fixtures.
New Stools, Hassocks, Stair Rods, &c.
New Lace Curtains by yard, pair or piece.
New Applique Lace Shadings and Blin

FINANCE AND TRADE.

TUESDAY EVENING, February 6, 1877.

There was nothing in banking circles to-day outside of the monotonous routine which we have reported so often. The usual amount of business was done in the usual quiet way. Rates of discount continue at 7@8 per cent. on prime business paper and 6@7 on first-class collaterals.

Apropos of interest rates, we asked a bank officer a question which frequently is asked on the street by those not up in financial matters, viz.: The reason of the difference between the rates here and in the East. He answered that in the first place Pittsburgh never had money enough for its large business, and therefore the rates were maintained at a comparatively high figure. And, he added, a second reason is the fact that many of the loans made in New York for instance, are call loans, such as may be called in at any moment, and are in consequence contracted at a cheap discount. No such loans are made here; business men in need of money to buy iron or anything else, want the money for a known time, during which time they expect to turn their investments into cash to meet their obligations. In the East wealth is stored away in securities which may be thrown upon the market and converted into dollars whenever desired, in case a call loan is sent for; here there are few men holding such securities and in a situation to enjoy the low rates attending such loans. In legitimate business, however, there are but few of these loans made in the East, and the returns of the banks here will show that the actual business rates are not greatly below our own.

As to the probability of a reduction of the present rates, the officer spoken of said it was small, and would be even should the onerous war taxation be removed. Considering the expense of banking, the risks and the inevitable losses, there would be no profit in the business at lower rates.

Inquiries at the savings banks showed that hard as the times have been no little money has been stored up by working men and women. Taking the report of one of the leading banks for savings we find the average deposits last year amounting to $105 59, the depositors being porters, waiters, laborers, coachmen, draymen, soldiers, bookkeepers, clerks, needlewomen, servants, teachers and other professional persons. The same report gives in a table showing the nativity of new depositors, a view of the comparative thriftiness of the foreign born population. Of the 1,451, of these 362 were Germans, 737 Irish 218 English, 63 Scotch, 17 Canadians, 24 French, 20 Welsh. Anything like an exact comparison of thriftiness from the table could be obtained only by ascertaining the relative number among us of the several nationalities named, but one acquainted with the make-up of our population can form a fair idea of it. It is worth observing that of the 3,337 depositors of all nationalities, including Americans, or last year, 1,366 were female, only 595 less than the male depositors.

Leaving comparative statistics, the savings banks report a good business not only in deposits, but in loans, which are steadily called for, and when made with reasonable caution are safe. In the East a movement is on foot to reduce the interest on deposits, and in parts of New England four per cent. is so frequent as to amount nearly to a rule. Here there is no disposition to reduce the present rate, as those at which loans are made justify it, 8@10 per cent. being the ruling figures.

—Upon the question of imports and exports the St. Louis *Republican* says:

This year we start out with much heavier exports for the first month than those of last January and much less imports than for the same time last year. For instance the imports last January were $22,294,115 exclusive of specie. The exports were $14,231,815 also exclusive of specie. The result of this is that we bought of merchandise $8,062,300 in value greater than the value of the goods we sold. During the same time we shipped abroad $1,439,923 in specie, and received from abroad $114,344. Deduct this from the amount we shipped, and we have $1,325,579 which must be added to the balance against us on the goods account, and shows that we ran in debt $9,387,879 during January, 1876. The amount for January, 1877, is as follows: Exported in produce $16,854,592; imported merchandise $19,441,061; balance against us $586,469. Imported specie $913,815. Exported specie $755,628, leaving a gain of imports over exports of $152,191 which must be deducted from the balance against us, leaving it less than half a million instead of nearly nine and a half millions as was the case last year. It must be remembered that we are only speaking now of the single port of New York, and the imports here are usually greater, as compared with the exports, than is true of any other port. Baltimore and Philadelphia will probably show more exports than imports, so that when the entire statement is made up the balance for January will be largely in favor of the United States.

The present apparent tendency toward specie in Turkey may prove to be entirely delusive, and should such be the case then the movement of corn to Europe will be greatly accelerated. On the beginning of the year the supply of wheat upon which Great Britain could reasonably count was 8,016,000 bushels, against 36,892,000 bushels at the same time last year. If there should be war after all between Russia and Turkey, the supplies from Odessa, from Northern Turkey and Egypt would not come forward, and the deficiencies would have to be largely made up with corn. Hence the exportations to Europe of 1877 may greatly exceed those of any previously year.

—The statement of the fires and fire losses in the United States for 1876 shows that there were 9,301 fires, and the value of property destroyed was $73,775,000 —of which $88,262,000 was covered by insurance. In the preceding year the losses mounted to $86,328,000, and the insurance to $45,631,000. The losses for 1876 were about one-half of one per cent. on the assessed value of all the taxable property in the country; those for 1875 were nearly two-thirds of one per cent.; and those of 1871, the year of the Chicago fire, were about one and a half per cent. If we estimate the annual increment of national wealth at five per cent., ten per cent. of the increment was destroyed by fire last year, and thirty per cent. of it in 1871. It is not encouraging to reflect that we are burning up our annual net earnings at this rate.

—The Philadelphia *Public Record* says: The coal trade, in all its departments, has been very dull during the past week. The moderate weather has lessened the retail demand, which for the past month has been the most active branch of the trade. There are but few orders from the East coming in. The stocks are full in the cities and towns, and the tide-water points of distribution are overflowing. Some of the large companies are selling coal at a marked reduction below circular prices, which has the effect of destroying confidence in the market. The expected curtailment in production by the large companies is not very manifest as yet, but there is no escape from it, it is inevitable. From the situation, restriction cannot go on. The "cutting under" in prices is a sure indication of the excessive supply and the pressing demand of the companies for money to meet current expenses. There will probably soon be a resumption of coastwise shipments. The ice in the river is pretty much broken up, and few days continuance of the present mild weather will remove the navigation ice. The quantity of bituminous coal sent to market during the week was 43,371 tons, against 7,730 tons for the corresponding week of last year being a decrease of 4,449 tons. From the beginning of the coal year the total bituminous tonnage has amounted to 36,217 tons, against 215,209 tons up to the same period of last year, being a decrease of 28,992 tons. This shows the total tonnage of all kinds for the week to have been 271,588 tons, and for the year 1,775,052 tons, against 370,519 tons for the corresponding week of last year, and 1,825,680 tons for the year to same period in 1876, being a decrease for the week of 99,224 tons, and for the year of 50,588 tons.

—The New York *Journal of Commerce* of yesterday says:

The business at the United States Subtreasury in this city to-day was as follows, viz: Gold receipts, $777,340 53; gold payments, $1,062,800 97; gold balances, $69 125,677 10; currency receipts, $896,725 14; currency payments, $552,181 33; currency balances, $43,346,688 12. Included in the gold receipts are $520,000 from the Custom House. The receipts for duties at the Custom House were $511,866 72, of which $16,- 0 were in gold, and the balance in gold certificates.

The transactions for the week at the Sub-Treasury have been as follows:

GOLD.		
1877.	Payments.	Receipts.
January 29	$ 736,364 28	$ 559,451 39
January 30	160,465 62	514,289 84
January 31	350,473 79	340,429 90
February 1	160,931 52	1,298,817 00
February 2	1,514,619 42	1,252,915 16
February 3	1,027,830 97	777,340 53
Total	$4,121,286 94	$ 4,883,329 58
Balance January 27		68,370,474 56
		$73,241,484 04
Payments during week		4,121,286 94
Balance to-night		$69,120,197 10
Decrease		743,722 54

CURRENCY.		
1877.	Payments.	Receipts.
January 29	$ 760,050 52	$ 943,319 54
January 30	514,288 84	945,486 00
January 31	604,253 95	594,629 95
February 1	675,880 72	583,586 15
February 2	1,226,635 47	719,405 54
February 3	896,725 14	896,725 14
Total	$4,330,910 71	$ 4,682,343 32
Balance January 27		42,896,601 51
		$47,578,944 83
Payments during week		4,201,943 71
Balances to-night		$43,346,688 12
Decrease		480,956 61

The amended in the gold receipts are $2,317, d from the Custom House.

—The following is the report of the prices leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock ard, as received by wire near noon to day:

Stocks.	Bid.	Asked.	Sales.
Pennsylvania Central	....	....	45¾
Reading	....	....	14
United Cos. of N. J.	....	139½	2
Pgh, Titville & Buffalo	....	....	75
Lehigh Valley	....	....	47¾
Central Transportation	38¾	....	200
P., C. & S. L.	....	....	80
Allegheny Valley 7 30s	....	105	....

[By Associated Press.]

Gold Closed at 105¾.

MONEY.

NEW YORK, February 6.—Money easy at 3@5 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 4@6 per cent. Customs receipts $323,000. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $282,000. Clearings $33,000,000. Sterling quiet at 484½@486.

GOLD.

Gold opened and closed at 105¾, with sales during the day at 106¾. Carrying rates 3@6 per cent. Silver at London unchanged; here bar silver is 131¾ per ounce in greenbacks and 124¾ in gold; silver coin ¾ per cent. discount.

GOVERNMENT BONDS.

Government bonds active and a fraction lower. Railroad bonds quiet but firm. State securities dull. Speculative interest at the Stock Exchange centered chiefly in Western Union, and many rumors were current in regard to it, but none that could be confirmed. This stock fell off from 74¾ to 72¾, closing at 73¼. Coal stocks were weak and lower, apparently in sympathy with a break in Reading at Philadelphia. Lake Shore was well sustained. Transactions 118,000 shares, of which 60,030 were Western Union, 7,000 St. Paul, 21,000 Lake Shore, 11,000 Delaware, Lackawanna and Western and 7,000 New Jersey Central. The following were the closing quotations:

STOCKS.			
West. Union Tel.	73¼	N. J. Central	23¾
Quicksilver	15¾	Rock Island	101¾
Do preferred	21	St. Paul	18¾
Pacific Mail	25	Do preferred	48¾
Mariposa	4¼	Toledo & Wabash	7¾
Do preferred	5	Ft. Wayne	101
Adams Express	104	Terre Haute	4¾
Wells-Fargo Ex.	89½	Do. preferred	13½
American Ex.	53½	Chicago & Alton	101¾
United States Ex.	51½	Do. preferred	110¾
New York Central	101½	Ohio & Mississippi	6¾
Erie	9¾	Illinois Central	99½
Do. preferred	18	A. & P. Tel. Co.	15¼
Harlem	140	Missouri Pacific	102¾
Do. preferred	136	Indiana Central	27½
Michigan Central	42¾	Bur. & Quincy	116¾
Panama	137	Hannibal & St. Jos.	11½
Lake Shore	54¾	Union Pac. stock	67
Illinois Central	54	Central Pac. bds.	108¾
Del. & Hud.	92	Union Pac. bds.	104¾
Northwestern	34¾	Do. land grants	19¾
Do. preferred	55¾	Do. S. F. bonds	98¾
C., C. & I.	32¾		

GOVERNMENTS.			
U. S. coupons, 1881	114¾	New 5's	111
5-20's, 1865, reg.	111¾	Do. coupon	112¾
5-20's, 1865, new	113¾	10-40's, registered	111¾
5-20's, 1867	113¾	10-40's, coupons	114¾
5-20's, 1868	113¾	Currency 6's	125¾

STATE BONDS.			
Tennessee, old	43	Virginia, old	30
Tennessee, new	23¾	Missouri 6's	105¾
Virginia, new	30		

LONDON, February 6, 5 P. M.—The bullion withdrawn from the Bank of England on balance to-day is £230,000. Consols 95 9-16 United States bonds—5-20's, 1865, 106¾; do 1867, 110; 10 40's, 110¾; new 5's, 105¾. Railroad securities—New York Central 99; Erie 9¼; preferred 18.

NEW ORLEANS, February 6—Gold 105¼@105¾. Sight exchange on New York ¼ per cent. premium. Sterling exchange 514.

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } TUESDAY, February 6, 1877. }

Trade to-day was without any new features, dealers reporting a fair demand and frequent orders, which were about yesterday. Considering the season and the state of the times, there is little to complain of in general trade. Quotations remain substantially unchanged.

The prices realized in the city since our last are as follows: Wheat, bush.....1,247 Bacon, pcs.....7,677
Flour, bbls.....1,170 Hay, bales.....605
Oats, bush.....828 Apples, bbls.....48
Corn, bush.....1,091 Barley, bus.....1,383
Butter, lbs.....70 Rye, bush.....175

The quotations given in the following reports are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. In small sales, dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free in elevator.

Grain, Flour and Feed.

GRAIN—Corn to-day was reported unusually firm. We have good authority for saying that car could not be had on the wharf for less than 41c, which is 2c higher than the highest asked last. There is no sufficient reason, however, to consider this a permanent advance, as the market has been unsettled, more or less, ever since the opening of navigation. Dealers do not expect higher figures for a sustained run. Quite a number of bituminous coal sent to market during the week was 43,371 tons, against 7,730 tons for the corresponding week of last year being a decrease of 4,449 tons. from the beginning of the coal year the total bituminous tonnage has amounted to 36,217 tons, against 215,209 tons up to the same period of last year, being a decrease of 28,992 tons. This shows the total tonnage of all kinds for the week to have been 271,588 tons, and for the year 1,775,052 tons, against 370,519 tons for the corresponding week of last year, and 1,825,680 tons for the year to same period in 1876, being a decrease for the week of 99,224 tons, and for the year of 50,588 tons.

FLOUR—We have no changes to note and report the market quiet and firm. When changes occur they will be announced, for dealers in such an abnormal. It is a fact that certain grades of Pittsburgh flour are now actually being brought from Philadelphia here and sold at a profit. Prices are out of sorts as a result of the speculative holding in the West. No. 1 white wheat flour at $6 50@8 75 ₱ bbl; No. 1 timber do $6 00 prime red wheat flour $5 00. Wisconsin $7 25@7 75; Minnesota $7 75@8 00; fancy St. Louis $9 25@9 75; Graham flour $6 75@7 25; fortunes $6 00@6 50; patents, $7 75@8 00; Michigan Central, 4¾; Bur. & Quincy ...116¾; Panama.....137 Hannibal & St. Jos. 11¾; Lake Shore.....54¾ Union Pac. stock.. 67 Illinois Central.....54 Central Pac. bds..108¾ Del. & Hud.....92 Union Pac. bds...104¾ Northwestern.....34¾ Do. land grants..19¾ Do. preferred.....55¾ Do. S. F. bonds..98¾ C., C. & I.....32¾

MILL FEED—The market is firm at the following quotations: Bran $17 00@19 00 ₱ ton; No coarse middlings $18 00@20 00; middlings $22 00@23 00; chopped feed $20 00@25 00.

HAY—The market is dull and abundantly supplied. A large stock on the floors of dealers which goes very slowly. We quote: No. 1 timothy $13 00@13 50; No. 2 timothy $12 00@13 00 from first hands baled. Prairie—Upland $10 00@11 00; mixed $9 00@10 00.

Country Produce.

Things in the produce line are about as when last reported, the demand being moderate and prices at the old figures. We have little to change in the quotations of yesterday.

APPLES—Are plenty, and in moderate demand at $2 50@3 75 ₱ barrel for the best; lower grades 90c@$2 25.

APPLE BUTTER—Going slowly, and quoted at 33@36c ₱ gallon as to quality.

BEESWAX—A little scarce, and quoted at 30@ 33c ₱ lb.

BEANS—Are in fair demand at $2 00@2 25, according to quality, for prime white navy. Lima beans, new crop, $4 50 ₱ bushel.

BROOM CORN—We quote: Choice hurl 6½@7c, as to quality; brush that will work up 5½@5½c; medium green 4½@4½c; red topped 3@4c; inferior not desired; crooked is half demand at 3@ 3½c, as to quality.

HONEY—Very little doing and quoted at 30@35c ₱ lb for new crop.

SHAKER DRIED CORN—Fair supply and quoted at 75 ₱ lb.

HOMINY—Demand moderate at $3 50@3 75 ₱ barrel.

NUTS—Hickory nuts dull at 75@$1 00 per bushel; shellbarks, a light demand and quoted at $1 25@1 50.

ONIONS—Still scarce and quoted at $4 00 ₱ barrel.

HONEY—California comb 20@22c ₱ lb; home honey 22c.

CRANBERRIES—Supply sufficient and market dull. The quotations are $9 00@10 00 ₱ barrel; $3 25@3 50 ₱ bushel.

CIDER—Market slow and supply sufficient. We quote at $3 50@4 00 a barrel inclosed, for common; $5 00@5 50 for choice.

DRIED FRUITS—The supply is abundant and the demand very limited. We quote dried apples at 4@5c ₱ lb for prime quarters; 6@6c for sliced; dried peaches 13c; evaporated peaches 15@20@35c per pound according to quality.

DRIED PEAS—The demand is moderate for new crop at $1 50@1 60 ₱ bushel.

POTATOES—Are in better demand and a shade lower. We quote: Choice solid packed 15@17c per ₱ bu; do rolf 22@23c; choice dairy rolls 23@25c.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—Light demand at $3 75@ 4 00 per cwt. for prime; $7 25@7 50 per bbl.

CHEESE—We quote prime Ohio factory at 13¼ @14½c in round lots; New York factory 13½@ York Goshen 15½@16c in round lots; 16@16½c in a jobbing way. Young American 18c; nutmeg 17c.

SEEDS—Not much doing yet. The rates at the store are: Timothy seed $2 00@2 25 bushel of 62 lbs; timothy seed $2 00@2 15.

ROOT CROPS are quite plenty and lower. We quote fresh at 30@35c for carrots; pickled at 30@35c.

FEATHERS—Choice are quoted at 55@60c ₱ lb at wholesale; 6@70c in a jobbing way; mixed are quoted at 35@40c ₱ lb at wholesale; 40@45c in a jobbing way.

DRESSED HOGS—Supply light and quoted at 7½ ₱ lb.

POULTRY—The season being about over the supply of both dressed and live is nearly exhausted. The demand is very light. We quote nominally. Dressed chickens 12½@13c. We quote live turkeys at 25c@$1 00 each; dressed 12½@13c ₱ lb. Live chickens in coop 40@45c ₱ pair. Ducks, live, 45@50c ₱ pair; dressed, 12½@15c ₱ lb. Geese 50@60c each; dressed 8@9c ₱ lb.

POTATOES—Plentier and still coming in. We quote: $1 15 @ 1 25 per bushel and $1 30@ 1 35 at store. A few sweets are in market and quoted at $4 00@5 50 ₱ barrel, as to quality and kind.

VINEGAR—There is scarcely anything doing. We quote nominally 17@20c ₱ gallon for prime country stock; 14c for best city make; wine vinegar 25c.

WOOL—Nothing doing. Common fleece, ₱ lb, 33c; ¼ to full blood, ₱ lb, 33@37c; combing, ₱ lb, 40c; tub-washed, ₱ lb, 46c; city pullings, ₱ lb, 25@30c; unwashed, ₱ lb, 18@20c.

Provisions.

We report a fair market for provisions, but little else, as the demand and quotations remain as described yesterday.

BACON—Shoulders 8c per pound; short rib sides 10c; clear sides 10½c.

CUT AND CURED MEATS—Hams are firm at 12½c ₱ lb for extra sugar-cured. Breakfast bacon is steady, and we quote sugar-cured at 12½c. Sugar-cured shoulders were steady at 9½c. Dried beef sugar-cured, was firm at 15c. Beef tongues, per dozen, are quoted at $6 50.

LARD—Kettle-kart. tierces, 11¾c; ¼ bbls 12¼c; pails, 12¾c. Refined lard—Tierces 12c; ¼ bbls 12¾c; 20 ₱ pails 13c; 3 ₱ tin pails 14½c; 5-lb do, 14½c; 6-lb do, 14½c; 3-lb cartons, 14½c; 5-lb do, 14½c.

LARD OIL—Cincinnati oil, double extra $1 60 @1 65 per gallon; extra 90@95c; No. 1 78@83c; No. 2, 65@68c; miners' white winter 65c; miners' yellow winter 60c. Pittsburgh oil, double extra winter strained see per gallon; extra 90c; No. 1, do 80c; No. 2 65c; white winter miners' oil 66c.

MESS PORK—In fair demand and quoted at $16 00 per barrel.

TALLOW—We quote chandlers' city rendered at 8½c per pound; country do 7½c per pound; rough 3½c per pound.

Groceries.

Business was fair among the grocers to-day, they reporting a good number of orders and favorable prospects for spring trade. We give below the ruling prices:

Green Coffees.	₱ lb.	*Sugars.*	₱ lb.
Fancy Rio	25½@	Standard A	11¾c
Choice Rio	24½c	Standard B	11¼c
Prime Rio	23½c	Do. extra C	11c
Good Rio	21 c	Extra C—yel'ow	10½c
Ordinary Rio	20 c	C—yellow	9½@10c
Java	27 c	Franklin, B 16's	10½c
Roasted Coffees.		New Orleans	8¾@10 c
Rio, in papers	22@	Cut-Loaf	12½c
2d grades do	20@	Crushed	12½c
Rio, in bulk	21½@	Powdered	12½c
Java, in p'rs	30@	Granulated	12½c

Molasses.	₱ gal.
Strv cn. N. O	50c
Prime	55c
Syrups.	
Ex. white drips	61@65c
Sugar drips	55c
Lower grades	25@45c
Starch.	₱ lb.
Pearl	3½@4c
Silver gloss	5½c
Corn	7½@10½c
Chicago gloss	6
Chicago corn	8½c
Rice.	
Choice Carl'a	6¼@7 c
Louisiana	5½@6½c
Soda.	
Bi-carb, in kgs	4½@5
Bi-carb, in 10-lb pkgs	5
Bi-carb, in ₱ papers	5½c
Candles.	
Star, full wh't	16 c
Stearine	11@13 c
Mould	11½c

FISH—Following are the ruling quotations at which sales are made:

	Per bbl.		Per bbl.
Extra No. 1 Mess mackerel	$27 00	Round herring	$6 00
Extra No. 1 shore	20 00	Split Labrador do	8 00
Extra No. 1 bay	17 00	Lake Pick., h'f-bbls	3 50
Extra No. 2 large	15 00	Lge Georges cod-fish, ₱ lb	6
No. 2 medium	12 50	Large No. 1 herring	5¾
No. 3 medium	9 00	Medium Georges	5¼
No. 1 Mess, h'f-bbls	9 00	Halibut, ₱ lb	12c
Lake Trout, do	4 50	No. 1 Herring, ₱ box	12½
		Scaled herring, do	40

CANNED GOODS—Demand fair. We quote green peas, 2 5-cans ₱ dozen, $1 50@2 25; raspberries do $1 85; strawberries do $1 75; gooseberries do, $1 50; pineapples do, $2 25; blackberries do, $1 85; peaches, 3 5-cans per dozen, $2 25; tomatoes do, $1 00; pickles, bbls, $8 25; half-bbls, $4 75.

FOREIGN FRUITS—The market is quiet and prices rule as below. We quote: Layer raisins, new, per box, $2 25; London layers, new, $3 25; Muscatel $2 40; mat raisins $5 00 ₱ mat; Valentia, new, 9½c ₱ lb; Sultanas 17c. Dates 6@6½c ₱ lb. Currants 7½c. Citron 30c. Prunes, old, 6c; new, 7½c. Almons—Languedoc 22c; do shelled 38c; do rissons 37c; do Jordan 55c; do Ivica 22c. Walnuts—Naples 20c; Marbot 15c; Sicily filberts 16c. Smyrna figs, new, 14c. Brazil nuts, new, 11c. Pecans, new, 12c. Pineapples, 12c. Lemons—Palermo ₱ box, $4 50. Oranges—Messina and ₱ box; Florida $3 50 ₱ box. Cocoanuts $7 00 ₱ hundred.

Petroleum.

February 6.—Dullness and inactivity were the ruling features of the refined market. Buyers and sellers are as wide apart as they were two weeks ago. The dullness not only prevails in buying, but there was no business of the leading brands to-day. Small jobbing trade at 22c; 500 or 1,000 barrel lots are not wanted at present. At New York the absence of sales was so complete that only give the nominal rates; holders ask 26¾c for refined in shipping order; while small lots are selling from second hands at the same rate. At Baltimore and Philadelphia no improvement has been reported. Holders still demand 16¾c, but there are no buyers; cases 3 c.

OIL BARRELS.—Market dull; city made offered at 81 25; country do $1 05.

PARKER, February 6 6 P. M.—The crude oil market has been quiet but firm in tone throughout the day, with only moderate offerings. United and Parker opened at 87½, advanced to $8 16¾, then fell back to $8 13¾, again advancing to $8 18, the present quotation. No open transactions in the regular way sold at $8 16. Shipment in more demand at $3 22½@ 3 25 for 80 gravity in bulk, delivered here in 4th and 5th insts.; 25,000 barrels. No Conduit deliveries.

[By Western Union Telegraph.]

OIL CITY, February 6.—The *Derrick* says of yesterday's market: Opening at $8 10¾, the market gradually declined to $8 08¾, touching it at 3 P. M.; it then kicked in the opposite direction and declined to $8 10¾. After dinner the feeling became weak, and the market was slow, steady advance until the close, when $8 13¾ was paid for and bid for more than all our sellers. Shipment continues dull; the nominal figures are about $3 25@3 27½. Sales and resales 50,000 barrels.

NEW YORK, February 6, closing 5.—The whole petroleum market has been very dull and stagnated from second hands at relatively low figures without business resulting. Refiners are waiting the development of the trade and of to recent figures. Refined from second hands is offered in small lots at 22c. Free buyers are the asking rates for New York delivery; crude in bulk 12c; in barrels 15¾c; city naptha 16c in shipping order; refined in barrels asked for spot; cases 30@31½c. At Philadelphia and Baltimore refined, spot, rules at 20½c from refiners' hands and 21c for small lots in second hands.

PHILADELPHIA, February 6.—Market quiet; standard white 20¾c; crude 12c; cases 30c. No sales and no futures offering.

PITTSBURGH, February 6.—Market opened firmer at $8 25 bid.

OIL CITY, February 6.—Market firmer; $8 15 bid for United; $3 15¾ asked; immediate shipment $8 25 bid.

ROUSEVILLE, February 6.—Market quiet but steady; held at $3 12¾.

TIDEWATER, February 6.—Market quiet; held about $3 20.

PARKER, February 6.—Market firm; United $3 16¾ bid; shipment $3 37¾.

[By Associated Press.]

NEW YORK, February 6.—Petroleum dull and nominal; crude 12c; refined 20¾c; cases 29¾c; city naptha 16c.

PHILADELPHIA, February 6.—Petroleum without demand; nothing offering; crude in barrels nominally 15¾c; refined held at 20¾c.

BALTIMORE, February 6.—Petroleum dull; crude 11¾@12c; refined nominally 25c.

LIVERPOOL, February 6.—Refined petroleum 12d; spirits do 11d.

ANTWERP, February 6.—Refined petroleum 49 francs.

MOVEMENTS OF PETROLEUM.

	Barrels.
Crude receipts, A. V. R. R.	1,407
Refined shipments, A. V. R. R.	100

General Merchandise.

ALCOHOL AND HIGHWINES—We quote alcohol at $2 18@2 30 ₱ gallon; highwines at $1 10 ₱ gallon.

BAGS AND BAGGING—There is a fair demand and prices rule as follows: Extra gunny bags 23c; do second-hand 18c. Union grain bags 16c; Anchor do 15c; Flaxseed do 12c; Penn Mill 3 bushel 36c; do 2¾ bushel 34c; do 2 bushel 32c. Market unchanged.

BAKING POWDER—Quoted as follows: ¼ ₱ cans $1 50 ₱ dozen; ½ ₱ cans $3 00; 1 ₱ cans $5 00; 5 ₱ cans $23 00; 10 ₱ cans $45 00. Market steady and demand good.

BATTING—The demand for batting recently made and reported is maintained. The market is without any special features. The prices list is as follows:

Per foot.		Per foot.	
1 inch wide	9	5 inches wide	57
1½ inches wide	13	5½ inches wide	63
2 inches wide	21	6 inches wide	69
2½ inches wide	27	7 inches wide	81
3 inches wide	33	8 inches wide	93
3½ inches wide	39	9 inches wide	1 17
4 inches wide	45	10 inches wide	1 41
4½ inches wide	51	14 inches wide	1 65

Discount 15 to 25 per cent., as to quality and quantity.

LEATHER AND HIDES—There has been a noticeable falling off in the demand for leather recently, and sales are not near the immediate wants. Oak, rough, leather and No. 1 finished harness is in liberal supply, but not enough the supply equals the demand. Our quotations are without material change. The quotations on hides are unchanged:

Leather			
Oak sole, country ₱ lb		36@	38
Oak sole, city		38@	40
Red sole, Buenos Ayres heavy		28@	30
Red sole, Buenos Ayres mid		28@	30
Red sole, Orinoco and Cala. heavy		28@	30
Red sole, Orinoco and Cala. mid		28@	30
Red sole, good damaged		24@	26
Oak, rough		24@	27
Harness, city oak		30@	38
Harness, country		27@	30
Harness, No. 2 and common		26@	27
Collar, oak sides, ₱ foot		15@	17
Fair skirting ₱ lb		30@	32
Fair bridle and line, ₱ doz		$40 00@	60 00
Best leather ₱ lb		32@	36
Finished calf		90@	$1 20
Finished upper, ₱ foot		16@	20
Finished kips ₱ lb		50@	90

Hides.			
Green salted cows		8	@8½
Green salted steers		9	@9½
Green salted steers, heavy		9	@9½
Green salted calf		12	@13
Green butcher cows			5¼
Green butcher steers, light			6
Green butcher steers, heavy			7
Green butcher calf			10

BROOMS—The market is particularly active, the demand upon manufacturers in some instances exceeding the supply. Below we give the new card prices:

No. 3 hurl, plain handles, red corn	$1 80
No. 4 hurl, varnished hand's, red corn	2 15
No. 5 hurl, varnished hand's, red corn	2 40
No. 1 hurl, plain handles, green corn	1 65
No. 2 hurl, plain handles, green corn	1 90
No. 3 hurl, painted hd's, brace finish	2 25
No. 4 hurl, painted hdls, velvet finish	2 50
No. 5 hurl, painted hdls, velvet finish	2 75
No. 6 hurl, painted hdls, velvet finish	3 00
No. 3 carpet, velvet finish	2 75
No. 4 carpet, velvet finish	3 00
No. 5 carpet, velvet finish	3 75
No. 3 upright, extra fine	4 00
No. 4 upright, extra fine	4 00
Hotel brooms	3 50@5 00
Toy brooms, plain finish	1 25@1 50
Toy brooms, velvet finish	1 50@1 75
Whisks, plain finish, 8 and 10 inch	1 50@1 75
Whisks velvet finish, 6, 8 and 10 inch	1 50@1 75

CRACKERS—Demand active and prices as follows: Water crackers 7c; sugar crackers 10½c; butter crackers 7c; soda crackers 7c; extra Boston 10c; extra sodas 10c; ginger snaps 10c; extra biscuit 12c. Trenton hard made crackers 9c per pound.

HEMP—The demand is slow at $123 00@125 00 for Kentucky rough.

OILS—Trade is fairly active and the market is strong. We quote jobbing prices as follows: Neatsfoot oil, pure, per gallon, 90c; miners' oil—No. 1, 70c; head light, 150 degrees test, 35c; extra do, 110 degrees fire test, 25@26c; extra engine (amber color), 50c, No. 2 engine (amber color), 40c; extra engine (dark), 35c; spindle oil, 30c; West Virginia, 28 degrees gravity, 30c; No. 2 West Virginia, 25c; natural lubricating, 28 degrees gravity, 20@22c; car oil, No. 1, 13c; car oil, No. 2, 15c; amber burning or torch oil, 140 fire test, 15@16c; residuum, (unrefined), $4 00; residuum (common), $3 50; sale, ₱ gross, $12 00; rolling mill grease, ₱ pound, 7c; bleached winter whale oil 75c; cod oil, for tanners, 60@65c; strait oil, for tanners, 50@55c.

RAGS—The market is steady. We quote cotton mixed, 2½@2½c ₱ lb; and woolen 5@6c.

STOVE POLISH—Sales made at $5 75 ₱ gross.

SAPOLIO—Cases of 6 dozen, $5 00; hand sapolio, cases of 6 dozen, $4 00.

SALT—The market is steady and unchanged. No 1 sells in car lots at $1 00 per barrel. We quote jobbing prices at $1 15 ₱ bbl for No. 1; $1 25 for extra do; $1 40 for dairy. Coarse salt repacking in 280-lb sacks of 220 lbs, $2 00@2 10 per sack; dairy salt in small sacks $3 25@3 50 ₱ bbl.

SODA ASH—The market is quiet but rather nominal, former quotations being unchanged as follows:

No. 1 tubs ₱ dozen	$5 50
No. 2 tubs ₱ dozen	7 50
No. 3 tubs ₱ dozen	6 00
2-hoop pails ₱ dozen	1 85
3-hoop pails ₱ dozen	2 10
Washboard, patent, ₱ dozen	2 75
Washboards, common, ₱ dozen	2 00@2 15
Clothes pins, round head, ₱ box	25

WRAPPING PAPER—Crown straw and rag, 2c ₱ bundle; medium, 52c; double crown, 70c; double medium, 91 65; tissue manilla, 35c@ $2 65 ₱ ream; dry goods, 75c@$5 50; fine manilla, 10@11c ₱ lb; No. 2 do, 8@9c; hardware do, 4@6c tea do, 8@10c; flour sacks (¼-bbl), $3 00@ 40 00 ₱ 1,000; do (½-bbl), $20 00@22 00; grocers' bags (1 lb), $1 30 ₱ 1,000; 3 lbs do, $2 70; 5 lbs do, $3 70; 10 lbs do, $6 00; 16 lbs do, $9 50; 25 lbs do, $10 50.

CORDAGE AND ROPE—Manilla rope ¼ inch diameter and upwards, 15½c ₱ lb; 5/16 inches and upwards, 15½c; ⅜ and 7-16 inch diameter, 16½c; tarred rope and lath yarn 14½c; hay, stalks and leather twine 14½. Oil well drilling cables: Hawser laid 15½c ₱ lb; hawser laid hoist rope yarns 16½c; sand pump rope 16½c. Sisal rope ½ inch diameter and upwards 11½c ₱ lb; ⅜ inch and upwards, 12½c; ¼ and 5-16 inch diameter 13½c; hay, spoke and leather twine 11½c; lath yarn 11½c.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Central Stock Yards, East Liberty.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } TUESDAY, February 6, 1877. }

We report a better market at East Liberty to-day, though prices on any kind of stock were not greatly higher than those given last.

CATTLE.

There was a fair run of local cattle. However, very few sales have been made, owing to a difference in the views of buyers and sellers of about 25c per cwt. It is highly probable that prices will vary but little from last week. We quote:

Extra choice, 1,400 to 1,600 lbs	$5 75@6 00
Prime, 1,200 to 1,400 lbs	5 50@5 50
Good, 1,100 to 1,200 lbs	4 90@5 00
Fair, 1,000 to 1,100 lbs	3 75@4 25
Common, 900 to 1,000 lbs	3 50@3 75
Bulls, stags and cows	2 75@4 00
Stockers	3 00@3 50

HOGS.

The run was very light, and prices on desirable qualities about 10 cents above yesterday's quotations. Should the run continue light, present prices may be maintained, as about all the *state* stock has been worked off:

Philadelphias	$7 00@7 25
Best mixed	6 80@6 90
Fair mixed	6 70@6 80
Best Yor

CITY MATTERS.

For seventy-five cents per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

Weather Report.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., Room 73, First National Bank Building, PITTSBURGH, PA., February 6, 1877.

Time.	Bar.	Ther.	—WIND— Dir.	Vel.	Weather.
7 A. M.	29.03	35	S. W.	7	Cloudy
2 P. M.	29.03	53	S. W.	9	Cloudy
9 P. M.	29.03	37	S. W.	9	Cloudy

Mean barometer.....29.03 Highest thermom... 39
Mean thermom..... 37 Lowest thermom.... 31

WAR DEPARTMENT,
SIGNAL SERVICE U. S. ARMY,
PITTSBURGH, February 6, 1877, 10:48 P. M.

Cairo, Ill.—Ther. 28; wind E.; clear.
Cincinnati, O.—Ther. 34; wind S. W.; clear.
Davenport, Ia.—Ther. 42; wind N. W.; clear.
Denver, Col.—Ther. 34; wind S.; fair.
Indianapolis, Ind.—Ther. 34; clear.
Keokuk, Ia.—Ther. 42; wind W.; clear.
Leavenworth, Kan.—Ther. 42; wind W.; clear.
Louisville, Ky.—Ther. 35; wind S.; clear.
Memphis, Tenn.—Ther. 46; wind S. W.; clear.
Nashville, Tenn.—Ther. 39; clear.
Omaha, Neb.—Ther. 41; clear.
Pittsburgh, Pa.—Ther. 37; wind S. W.; cloudy.
Portland, Org.—Ther. 43; clear.
Salt Lake City, U. T.—Ther. 3°; clear.
San Diego, Cal.—Ther. 56; clear.
San Francisco, Cal.—Ther. 58; wind N.; clear.
Santa Fe, N. M.—Ther. 34; wind S.; clear.
Shreveport, La.—Ther. 54; wind N. E.; fair.
St. Louis, Mo.—Ther. 41; wind S. W.; clear.
Vicksburg, Miss.—Ther. 54; wind S.; clear.
Virginia City, Mon.—Ther. 2°; fair.
Fort Gibson—Ther. 47; wind N.; fair.

Be Good to Yourself for Once.

If troubled with a Bad Cough or Cold, and use Dr. Jayne's Expectorant, a sure remedy for Asthma, Pleurisy, etc., as well as Throat Complaints. MWF

Troubadours.

Sale of seats this morning at Library Hall.

The Forbes Night School.

The night school in the Forbes district, Sixth ward, closed a prosperous term on Monday evening. The entire enrollment of pupils was 162. The exercises consisted of select readings, singing, addresses and refreshments. The entertainment proved very agreeable to all present. Prof. Eaton, so long the principal of this school, deserves especial mention on account of his successful services.

Burglaries at Mansfield.

On Monday night the residence of Mr. David Steen, at Mansfield, was entered by a burglar, who boldly invaded that gentleman's chamber, and took therefrom a gold watch, a pocket book and a sum of money. Some jewelry and several vests were picked up in other portions of the house, and at the whole loss foots up $300. On the same night thieves broke into the house of James Lee, in Mansfield, and upon being discovered made their escape.

Pittsburgh Mortuary Report.

Health Officer Gray reports 55 deaths during the past week from causes as follows: Measles, 2; smallpox, 12; cancer, 1; phthisis, 2; tubercles, 1; tubes mesenterica, 2; meningitis, 1; apoplexy, 1; infantile convulsions 2; pericarnitis, 1; disease of heart, 2; cynnosis, 1; croup, 1; bronchitis, 1; bronchial catarrh, 4; pneumonia, 3; congestion of lungs, 1; typhoid fever, 1; enteritis, 1; dysentery, 1; diarrhœa, 1; stomatitis, 1; Bright's disease, 1; cystitis, 1; old age 1; burns, 1; accident, 1; suicides, 2. Total, 55; females, 28; males, 27.

Pittsburgh Insurance Company.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the Pittsburgh Insurance Company, held yesterday, the following gentlemen were elected Directors for the ensuing year: Henry Lloyd, Alexander Bradley, Chas. Arbuthnot, M. L. Bonnell, David Riddell, Andrew Miller, John Scott, John Daub, James Gordon, James S. McCord, Wm. Rinehart, John Fullerton, D. R. Galway, James Colford, R. J. Wilson, W. W. Grier and James McCutcheon.

The Board organized as follows: Henry Lloyd, President; James Gordon, Vice President; Andrew Miller, Treasurer; Hillis McKown, Secretary.

The Moorhead Public Schools.

Mr. James M. McEwen, Secretary of the the Eleventh ward school board sends us a detailed statement of the finances of the board for the year ending June 30, 1876. We make the following abstract: The balance on hand June 30, 1875, was $77,495 34; the net proceeds of the tax duplicate were $6,131 79; the interest amounted to $293 22; making a total amount of $13,920 35. The expenditures were $7,441 09, leaving a balance on hand June 30, 1876, and bearing interest, $6,479 26. The bonded indebtedness of the ward now amounts to $59,000, a bond for $500 having been taken up during the year. The bonds bear eight per cent. interest, payable semi-annually. The valuation of the ward for school tax purposes, as reported by the County Commissioners, is $2,204 73.

Attempted Burglary.

A daring attempt was made about one o'clock yesterday morning to burglarize the house of Mr. Logan, on Arch street, Allegheny. Frank Day, Jr., and a companion were returning home from a temperance meeting when their attention was attracted to an upper window by repeated rapping on the sill by a man in his shirt sleeves who requested them to procure a lamp post and summon the police, as burglars were operating in the rear. The young men complying, officers Davis, Jack Wilson and Thorn responded. An examination at the rear of the house found the shutters open and a window raised, and a piece of wood chipped off the sill showing that a jimmy had been used. There was no trace of the burglars, and no evidence that they had been in the house. The window shutters were closed when the family retired for the night.

A New Music Book.

We have received from J. B. Lippincott & Co., of Philadelphia, through W. A. Gildenfenney & Co., No. 75 Fifth avenue, "The Music Reader; or the Principles and Principles of the Art, especially adapted to Vocal Music, for the use of schools, classes and private instruction." By Leopold Meigner, Doctor of Music, and William W. Keys. This, we take it, will prove a valuable aid to all desirous of instruction in vocal music, and especially to those to whom the means of acquiring a knowledge of the art are limited, either by inability to study privately or lack of opportunity to do so. This little work, while eminently practical, is also thorough and progressive. As far as practicable, the authors have avoided the usual dryness of all preliminary lessons. The subject is simplified and brought within the comprehension of all. "The Music Reader" should have a large sale. It can be had of Gildenfenney & Co.

Temperance Notes.

The Young Men's Temperance Union held a private meeting yesterday evening, when, it is said, there was plain talk about business.

At the "Old Home," last evening, there was the usual large attendance and much interest in the temperance work was manifested.

There will be a meeting this evening at Library Hall in lieu of the usual Sunday evening meeting. Francis Murphy, W. C. Moreland, Mr. Swartzweider, Colonel Reslf and others will speak.

In the Presbyterian church at Woods run, last night, a large and enthusiastic but somewhat disorderly temperance meeting was addressed by Messrs. J. D. Brooks, Rev. Dr. Sloan, George A. Barry and John S. Durgin. A number of signatures to the pledge were obtained, and the meeting was pronounced a decided success. Gospel meetings will be held throughout the week.

THE CITY POOR.

Final Meeting of the Board of Guardians—Annual Report of the Secretary—Interesting Statistics.

The Board of Guardians of the Poor held their final meeting for the fiscal year on Monday, to close up their business.

The Secretary, Mr. Braun, presented a detailed report for the fiscal year ending January 31st. The disbursements for each month were as follows:

February, $6,611 27; March, $8,780 93; April, $11,349 29; May, $5,560 73; June, $5,287 17; July, $5,204 73; August, $9,204 22; September, $15,581 23; October, $10,838 12; November, $5,785 39; January, 1877, $11,578 95. February, balance in Duquesne National Bank, Treasurer, $13,878 39; balance in hand, Secretary, $30 77; total, $112,-522 84.

These expenses were distributed as follows: At Central office—Salaries, $5,350 15; prescriptions, $1,943 03; Insane Hospital, $15,470 05; coal, $5,632 57; temporary relief fund, in cash, $21,452 53; bills payable for last year, $11,716 23; undertaking, $2,340 70; transportation, $2,123 48; general expenses, $1,418 93, shoes, $2,252 57; hospitals, $164 45; with miscellaneous objects detailed in report, making a sum of $71,367 77. At the Almshouse—Salaries, $4,725 07; groceries, $5,468 78; flour, $2,304 10; tobacco, $1,004 14; dry goods, $1,310 29; dressed meat and beef cattle, $3,260 73; coal, $740 21; drugs, paints, etc., $688 57, with sundry other miscellaneous objects detailed in report, all amounting to $27,245 88. The total expenses were, therefore, $98,613 65. Products and articles manufactured at the Almshouse are valued at $6,601 62, which can be considered a saving of that amount. The report was received and the Secretary authorized to notify Councils to appoint the usual auditing committee. The thanks of the Board were also voted to the Secretary. The annual report of Mr. Bullock, Superintendent of the Poor Farm, was also read, and was filed. The Board then adjourned.

Troubadours.

Sale of seats this morning at Library Hall.

THE Republicans of the Sixth ward, Pittsburgh, will meet this Wednesday evening at the Ann street school house to make suggestions.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Proposed Retrenchment by Reducing Number of Principals—Text of a Bill Prepared—Arguments for and Against.

We print below the draft of an act of Assembly, which has been prepared by Samuel Harper, Esq., member of the Central Board of Education, representing the Mt. Washington district, and will, in a few days, be presented to the Legislature for adoption. The object of the bill, as is apparent, is to reduce the main item of school expenses, viz: salaries. Here is the bill:

SECTION 1. Be it enacted, etc., That in cities of the second class boards of education shall, in lieu of principals of sub-district schools, elect such number of supervisors as may be necessary to secure a complete supervision of all the sub district schools in such cities.

SEC. 2. That it shall be the duty of the Boards of Education in such cities to arrange the schools in such manner that the school buildings contained in each section shall be as convenient to each other as practicable, and that the number of teachers in each section shall not be less than twenty five nor more than thirty-five, and when such supervisors shall have been elected one shall be assigned to each section.

SEC. 3. It shall be the duty of such supervisors to visit and inspect the schools in the section to which each may be assigned as frequently as may be possible, to assemble the teachers under his supervision as frequently as may be within the section on each Saturday during the school year for instruction in methods and such other duties as may be designated by the Board of Education, and each Board shall have power by standing rules not inconsistent with this act, to define specially the duties of such supervisors, and the manner in which such duties shall be performed.

SEC. 4. That such supervisors and the superintendent of schools shall constitute a faculty of supervision, of which the superintendent shall be President, the duties of which faculty shall be defined by standing rules of the Board of Education.

In speaking of the bill and its object Mr. Harper refers to the fact that about $225,000 are annually expended for teachers' salaries, and of this amount twenty-five to thirty per cent is paid to Principals. The schedule upon which Principals are paid is $1,600 per annum to those having six or more assistants and $1,200 to those having less than six assistants. Mr. Harper illustrated the difference in the work of Principals, so far as the supervision of the female teachers, as follows: "There is Professor L. H. Eaton Eaton, of the Forbes district, who is in charge of two school buildings, and has twenty assistants; then there is Professor Douglass, of the Allen district, who has only one building and six assistants; yet they both receive a salary of $1,600. Now, Professor Eaton has not time after he is engaged as those of any other principal in the city, wherefore it follows that Professor Eaton is not receiving enough salary or that Professor Douglass is receiving too much. If the former can conduct the schools in his two buildings and his twenty assistants with as great a degree of success as the latter can the schools of his one building and his six assistants, it proves that there is something wrong in the management of our schools.

Mr. Harper believes that one principal can superintend thirty teachers, and, there being two hundred and eighty assistants in the city, if the plan proposed is adopted, it will reduce the number of principals from fifty-seven to ten, each perhaps to have charge of one district, comprising several buildings in as close proximity as possible. Their combined salaries would only amount to $16,000, and thus a saving in principals' salaries alone of $41,800 would be effected.

This is in brief Mr. Harper's argument for the change. Below is a communication sent us in opposition thereto:

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial

In these times, when retrenchment is justly demanded by the overburdened taxpayers, it will be well to register Rogers with a jealous eye all measures emanating from political sources under the much abused name of Retrenchment and Reform. No sensible man will stand in the way of true reform and retrenchment; but before taking a decided stand in favor of certain measures, it is well to scrutinize them closely.

In the opinion of this writer, the School Centralization bill (a title which we beg leave to give it), taking the power out of the hands of the people, through their direct representatives, the local directors, and putting it exclusively in the hands of the Central Board of Education by special legislation, if passed by the Legislature will soon prove to have been a serious mistake. (Our correspondent here quotes the bill as above.)

I will summarize my objections to the bill as briefly as possible, and leave it to your intelligent readers to decide whether or not they are well taken.

The first section of the bill *prima facie* affords an opportunity for a beautiful political machine. It takes power out of the hands of the people and "puts it where it will do the most good"—perhaps. It makes ten political sinecures, with nothing in particular to do, and so much in general that it will be impossible to do anything well by reason of the time lost and the extra pay in the pockets of the "dear people," for the exclusive benefit of their guardians, the politicians. I have no reference here to the Board of Education, as at present constituted, but to the Board in prospect, when elected and organized under the political machine authorized. I believe a large majority of the present Board would vote it to the wall; and the retrenchers are certainly in the majority there now. The next legislature ought to kill the bill. The Republic is now sick almost to death with too much politics and special legislation, and when our public schools are killed by politics and special legislation, it will surely die.

My present article is long enough, and with your permission, Mr. Editor, I will resume further objections in another issue and will endeavor to show that in the end but little will be saved, while the schools will be seriously crippled.

Our present system has made the schools of Pittsburgh the pride of the friends of education at home and abroad, and while some curtailment may be made, better let a system that is producing such good results alone. TAXPAYER.

SEVERAL OBJECTIONS.

Another correspondent says that the proposed change would impair the schools for the following reasons:

First. A school employing from ten to twelve teachers requires the services of an expert and skilled superintendent as much as a bank requires a President, a manufacturing establishment a manager, or a ship a captain. Second. Because by the proposed change the supervising principal instead of being a responsible officer held accountable to the local or ward boards for the management of their schools, would become virtually irresponsible. Third. That the effect of such a change would be to centralize educational power in a radical wing (the Superintendent and ten others), removed beyond the influence of the people and practically responsible to nobody. Fourth. Because the actual amount of money saved the taxpayers would not be what is claimed, as the proposed supervisors are to receive from $2,000 to $2,500 as a salary. Fifth. Our oldest and most experienced educators, while admitting the efficiency of our primary and intermediate schools, hold that the grammar grades are suffering from want of teachers of superior attainments, and that the loss to this department by the removal of efficient working principals would be irreparable. Sixth. Our present system is giving entire satisfaction.

The bill has been prepared by Mr. Samuel Harper member of the Central Board of Education, probably assisted by a prominent school officer. It will no doubt receive full and free attention from those for and against it, and its merits and defects will soon be made apparent. It is proposed in a future article to show how retrenchment can be made in educational matters without impairing the efficiency of the schools.

THE WESTERN UNIVERSITY.

The Enlargement and Its Immediate Consequences—The Outer Man Duly Recognized—Evenings in Science.

It is hardly likely that the current year will have to yield its precedence in interest and importance to any other in the history of this institution, until that one comes which summons her to the magnificent structure the Trustees and her multiplied friends have in mind for her. The last term of the present year, just closed, may be regarded as the epochal term of this epochal year. It has witnessed the occupancy of the new building by the Preparatory Department. Were the times as dull for news as they sometimes have been, we should take pleasure in entering into the details of this new extension to the "Academic halls" the University orators turn to such sonorous account in rounding their periods. Suffice it to day that the department finds itself quite at home in its new quarters and never felt in better humor with itself and the outside world. Principal Ludden has things now so under control that he can carry out to the full the principles of management that have already crystallized in such excellent results.

Of one somewhat unique feature of the new order of things we must make mention. The lunch room on the first floor of the new building has proved to be one of the most popular and successful of all the *departments* ever organized in the institution. The scenes in that well appointed apartment at lunch time—about noon—are such as the eye of the philanthropist loves to dwell upon. This important interest has been committed to the management of Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Potter, the design being to furnish to the students at a cheap rate excellent and wholesome food. They are accommodated with anything from a five-cent plate of soup or cup of coffee to a twenty-five or thirty-cent dinner. Quite a large number of gentlemen and some ladies in the vicinity have also found the lunch room a decided convenience.

In the advanced department the main changes observable are those which result from more liberal elbow-room. The increased facilities given to the Department of Chemistry and Physics have borne immediate fruit in the inauguration of those evening courses of lectures by Professors Phillips and Deschweinitz, of which the public have had notice in our advertising columns. Prof. Phillips has already passed the *interrogatory* period, and his success warrants the confident hope that the lectures of Prof. Deschweinitz, begun last evening, will meet with equal encouragement.

THE POLICE INVESTIGATION.

Closing Testimony—Detective McGovern's Statement—Decision Reserved.

The investigation into the charges against Chief of Detectives Roger O'Mara was continued yesterday morning before Mayor McCarthy.

Detective James Scott was first examined by Mr. Swartzwelder. He detailed he efforts made to get track of the goods and secure the robbers, so far as he had connection therewith. The Mayor was anxious to get the wagon and made suggestions as to the hunt. He, the Mayor, refused to reduce Ferguson's bail when asked by the latter. Witness was not present at the hearing.

Chief Clerk Davis testified that he had nothing to do with the case; did not know of any dissatisfaction among the men.

Lieutenant Michael Harrison testified that he made the arrest of Ferguson on December 15th by order of the Mayor who sent Officers McClighe and Motts to secrecy. The Mayor told them where to go and what to do. The object of secrecy was to prevent detection and make things sure and nothing was to be said to Ellis.

Officer Motts gave similar testimony and related the taking by him at the instance of the Chief, of the pony and wagon to Allegheny for the purpose of identification.

Mrs. McCauley testified that she was a neighbor of and knew O'Mara and his family and knew of no silk having been brought to O'Mara's house or her own.

DETECTIVE M'GOVERN'S STATEMENT.

Detective McGovern testified as follows: On the morning after the robbery was notified by the Chief of it; there was nothing done that day except that Demmel and I visited Ferguson's house; we had a suspicion that he and Ellis had had a hand in the job, and we so told the Chief; on Friday morning the office learned of the finding of the goods; Mr. Boggs on Saturday morning told us, but did not tell us where they had been found; that afternoon the Mayor came into the Chief's office and said he had the robbers in the lock up; the Chief asked who they were, and was answered Ferguson and Ellis; the Mayor ordered us to hunt the pony, and we went out and found it and then started to hunt the harness; the wagon was got by Scott; the Mayor ordered me to hitch up the wagon and horse and take it over to Allegheny and place it where it was on the evening of the robbery. Witness detailed the arrest and identification, and only corroborated other witnesses.) Chief Hartzell says he wound up the case by suggesting to me that the harness were heavy and strange looking, and should be taken to trunk stores for identification; Harizell did not do so, the idea originated with Gessner; knew Ferguson and Ellis before; after I got my orders from the Mayor; before the hearing I was at Ellis' with Demmel; after the discharge of Ferguson was there; saw Ellis there and stopped at the bar room, then went up stairs with O'Mara; I was present at the conversation alleged to have taken place; we made him show his leg and we told him he was playing off; after we left we walked along together and said that leg was probably swollen from over exertion in climbing across the roofs; know nothing about the pony except what was testified in court; between there and Allegheny had conversation between O'Mara and Rivers; they are not good friends; don't know that the feeling extended to me or Demmel; we were not consulted by the Conference to Ferguson being at Steubenville. (Witness then detailed the conversation between himself, O'Mara and Ferguson in the Mayor's office, in reference to a true bill having been found). Ferguson said he had been told a true bill had been found; O'Mara told me to go and inquire; I went to Mr. McGonigle and asked if a true bill had been found against Ellis; he said yes, and just at that time Assistant District Attorney Hunter stepped up and said: "Yes, and against Ferguson, too;" he volunteered the remark; I had not mentioned Ferguson's name; after Ellis had turned State's evidence I went around the valises, dark lantern, etc.; that's where all of them heard it; although Rivers says that if proper effort had been made Ferguson would have been held for the grand jury; all the officers had the liberty to work on the case; no one was prohibited. Roger O'Mara first caused the arrest of Ferguson and Ellis; everything possible was done by the detectives and the Mayor to secure testimony.

Detective Messner was the next witness. He testified that one of the firm consulted with Chief Hartzell the morning after the robbery, and asked for two of the best detectives; the Chief named Demmel and McGovern; felt bad about the selection and did not have anything further to do with the case except to try to hunt up where the lock, found on the door in English's building, had been bought.

Detective Demmel next related the story of the efforts of himself, O'Mara and McGovern to work up the case. The Chief never advised him in getting evidence against Ferguson.

John Coyle, Esq., testified that in the matter of going to see Ferguson he had employed Mr. Schild to see Dressler, and the latter had said Schild could do it.

The testimony here closed, and at four o'clock Mr. Messer, Mr. O'Mara, and Mr. Swartzwelder, for the Commonwealth, addressed the Mayor. At the close the Mayor reserved his decision.

THE MURPHY MOVEMENT.

What Albert Rhodes Writes About It.

Mr. Albert Rhodes, the well known magazine writer, who was recently on a visit to Pittsburgh, has a letter in the New York *Tribune* of Saturday on the Murphy movement, in which he says:

In this cradle-ground of whisky in the form of the miners has Mr. Murphy been working since the beginning of November with much energy. He is on the rostrum night and day, perhaps seven or eight hours out of the twenty-four, and his excitement is general within a radius of forty or fifty miles of Pittsburgh. There are from fifteen to twenty what are called Murphy meetings every evening in the city named and adjacent towns, a part of the meetings being under the inspiration of him whose name they bear. Neither Mr. Murphy nor Father Mathew ever met with his success in this locality. He will eventually gravitate to New York, and it remains to be seen whether the same success will follow his visits there. If they do, Mr. Murphy is assured of a reputation as a temperance reformer equal to that of Father Mathew.

In the cities of Pittsburgh and Allegheny and their suburbs he has so far obtained about 30,000 pledges, and there is no sign of abatement in the general fervor. Among those pledged are Hunnibell Jones, a man distinguished for ability at the bar and in journalism, and this has given to the movement a certain character which it would not have had and has contributed much to its success. The antecedents of Mr. Murphy are few and simple. A statement was made that he was once a prize-fighter, but this appears to be a mistake, albeit, as Mr. Murphy took occasion to explain, "he had always known how to defend himself." Although he did not bring men to the ground in the ring, he acknowledges that he did so by selling them liquor in a barroom, for he kept a public house in Portland, Me. He drank as well as sold, and this brought ruin to the publican. Out of the misery and poverty of drunkenness he emerged on the platform of Reform, and the burden of his talk is his own story, in which he turns a calcium light on his own heart, and reveals personal details that most men would regard as sacred secrets.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

Mr. E. L. Davenport is to be congratulated on his good luck and good judgment in procuring Gilbert's latest dramatic production, "Dan'l Druce." It is in all essentials a domestic play, its theme being a father's almost boundless love for a daughter. The plot, while simple, is artistically constructed, and holds the interest of the auditors from first to last. The language is pure and well chosen, and never stilted. There is very little comedy in the piece, its incidents and action being mainly pathetic, but, withal, it is never heavy or wearisome. The play is a beautiful one, even if it cannot be classed among those that are great. Mr. Davenport's embodiment of the character of *Dan'l Druce*, the blacksmith, is of a different mould from any of his previous efforts and in some respects surpasses them all. It is a work never to be forgotten when once seen. Although laboring under the serious disadvantage of a severe cold and sore throat, he gave a most artistic portion to every one. He hasn't a weak scene in the entire play, some of his climaxes being marked by extraordinary power and passion.

Of the eight other persons in the cast, Miss Geraldine Maye, Mr. Lanagan and Mr. Sol. Smith are deserving of special mention. Miss Maye is very young, but displays a fair knowledge of her art, and acts neatly and artistically, never overdoing anything. Mr. Lanagan's *Sir Jasper Combe* is a dignified, mainly impersonation. *Reuben Haines*, the only comedy part in the piece, is well and effectively worked out by Mr. Smith. Mr. Louis Barrett's *Gray Wynyard* is not a satisfactory performance, while of the other persons in the cast it is not necessary to speak.

The audiences of Monday and last evening were the largest seen in the Opera House for several months, and went away delighted. Everybody should see "Dan'l Druce." It will be given every evening during the remainder of the week, and at Saturday's matinee.

The Shaughraun.

"Who wouldn't be an actor?" Mr. Boucicault has received, for playing *Conn* in his play of the "Shaughraun," $157,000 for two hundred and sixteen performances at Wallack's, New York; $29,000 for four weeks in Boston; $27,000 for four weeks in San Francisco; $12,000 for two weeks in Philadelphia. With the proceeds of his London engagement, the total is over $300,000.

Mr. Boucicault plays *Conn* at the Opera House, next week.

Engagement of Mr. Murphy.

At the meeting of the Young Men's Temperance Union last evening, after a long discussion, it was decided to engage Francis Murphy at a salary of $200 per week to aid in the organization of auxiliary branches in this county.

ALLEGHENY SCHOOLS.

Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board of Controllers—Reports of Committees—The Question of Reducing Principals to the Ranks &c., &c.

The Allegheny School Controllers held their regular monthly meeting for February last evening, President King in the chair.

Mr. R. C. Miller presented the report of the Library Committee, giving the number of books issued during the month as 1,457. The report was received and filed.

Mr. Stewart, from the Committee on Finance, presented the report of that committee, from which we extract as follows: The committee say that the bill presented by the City Controller for $3,000 as the *pro rata* of the Board for collecting school taxes for 1875 and '76 was laid over, and a committee appointed to ascertain what amount is due the Board for the fines for drunkenness collected by the Mayors of the city and paid into the treasury for the last eight years. The Enquirer Trust Company have paid the first instalment of the deposit, $5,117 65.

The report was received and filed.

The committee submitted the following estimates of the probable receipts and expenditures of the board for the year commencing June 1, 1877, in accordance with a resolution adopted at the last meeting:

Teachers of day schools	$111,310
Teachers of night schools	2,000
Teachers of music	2,000
Superintendent	2,000
Secretary	800
Contingent expenses	3,000
Contingent expenses of Library	3,000
Colored schools	800
Estimated deficiency June 1st	1,800
Total	$126,440
Taxable valuation	$43,000,000
Three mills will yield	$129,000
Deduct 15 per cent. for discounts and lost tax	19,359—$109,650
State appropriations	16,932
Total	$126,582

On motion of Dr. Hamilton, the report was filed for future consideration.

Dr. Hamilton moved to rescind the resolution adopted by the Board in 1874 promoting teachers to the position of principals and that the principals be restored to their original status of teachers. The gentleman argued that the adoption of his motion would save to the treasury the salaries of sixteen teachers.

After considerable discussion, Mr. Smith moved to postpone the further consideration of the question until the special committee appointed to examine into and present the matter to the Board, and the Committee on Teachers and Salaries, shall have made their reports. Adopted.

Mr. Malcolm Hay presented the report of the committee appointed to investigate the claim of Professor McCullough for a month's salary as principal of the Ninth ward school in September, 1873, in which the committee sustain the claimant to be not entitled to his claim, inasmuch as the school term did not commence until about the 1st of October, and that the said claimant was away from the city at the time of his election. The report was adopted and the committee discharged.

Mr. Miller, from the committee to investigate certain alleged statements in the report of Superintendent Davis, reported that the committee had not yet concluded their labor, and that they would meet again in Thursday evening next.

A communication from the Executive Committee of the Allegheny County and City Teachers' Association, asking the Board to appoint a committee to act in conjunction with them in fixing a time for the annual Institute to be held in charge of the Conference to Ferguson being at Steubenville. (Witness then detailed the conversation between himself, O'Mara and Ferguson in the Mayor's office, in reference to a true bill having been found). Ferguson said he had been told a true bill had been found; O'Mara told me to go and inquire; I went to Mr. McGonigle and asked if a true bill had been found against Ellis; he said yes, and just at that time Assistant District Attorney Hunter stepped up and said: "Yes, and against Ferguson, too;" he volunteered the remark; I had not mentioned Ferguson's name; after Ellis had turned State's evidence I went around the valises, dark lantern, etc.; that's where all of them heard it; although Rivers says that if proper effort had been made Ferguson would have been held for the grand jury; all the officers had the liberty to work on the case; no one was prohibited. Roger O'Mara first caused the arrest of Ferguson and Ellis; everything possible was done by the detectives and the Mayor to secure testimony.

Detective Messner was the next witness. He testified that one of the firm consulted with Chief Hartzell the morning after the robbery, and asked for two of the best detectives; the Chief named Demmel and McGovern; felt bad about the selection and did not have anything further to do with the case except to try to hunt up where the lock, found on the door in English's building, had been bought.

Detective Demmel next related the story of the efforts of himself, O'Mara and McGovern to work up the case. The Chief never advised him in getting evidence against Ferguson.

John Coyle, Esq., testified that in the matter of going to see Ferguson he had employed Mr. Schild to see Dressler, and the latter had said Schild could do it.

The testimony here closed, and at four o'clock Mr. Messer, Mr. O'Mara, and Mr. Swartzwelder, for the Commonwealth, addressed the Mayor. At the close the Mayor reserved his decision.

THE MURPHY MOVEMENT.

What Albert Rhodes Writes About It.

Mr. Albert Rhodes, the well known magazine writer, who was recently on a visit to Pittsburgh, has a letter in the New York *Tribune* of Saturday on the Murphy movement, in which he says:

In this cradle-ground of whisky in the form of the miners has Mr. Murphy been working since the beginning of November with much energy. He is on the rostrum night and day, perhaps seven or eight hours out of the twenty-four, and his excitement is general within a radius of forty or fifty miles of Pittsburgh. There are from fifteen to twenty what are called Murphy meetings every evening in the city named and adjacent towns, a part of the meetings being under the inspiration of him whose name they bear. Neither Joseph nor Father Mathew ever met with his success in this locality. He will eventually gravitate to New York, and it remains to be seen whether the same success will follow his visits there. If they do, Mr. Murphy is assured of a reputation as a temperance reformer equal to that of Father Mathew.

In the cities of Pittsburgh, Allegheny and their suburbs he has so far obtained about 30,000 pledges, and there is no sign of abatement in the general fervor. Among those pledged are Hunnibell Jones, a man distinguished for ability at the bar and in journalism, and this has given to the movement a certain character which it would not have had and has contributed much to its success. The antecedents of Mr. Murphy are few and simple. A statement was made that he was once a prize-fighter, but this appears to be a mistake, albeit, as Mr. Murphy took occasion to explain, "he had always known how to defend himself." Although he did not bring men to the ground in the ring, he acknowledges that he did so by selling them liquor in a barroom, for he kept a public house in Portland, Me. He drank as well as sold, and this brought ruin to the publican. Out of the misery and poverty of drunkenness he emerged on the platform of Reform, and the burden of his talk is his own story, in which he turns a calcium light on his own heart, and reveals personal details that most men would regard as sacred secrets.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

Mr. E. L. Davenport is to be congratulated on his good luck and good judgment in procuring Gilbert's latest dramatic production, "Dan'l Druce." It is in all essentials a domestic play, its theme being a father's almost boundless love for a daughter. The plot, while simple, is artistically constructed, and holds the interest of the auditors from first to last. The language is pure and well chosen, and never stilted. There is very little comedy in the piece, its incidents and action being mainly pathetic, but, withal, it is never heavy or wearisome. The play is a beautiful one, even if it cannot be classed among those that are great.

Mr. Davenport's embodiment of the character of *Dan'l Druce*, the blacksmith, is of a different mould from any of his previous efforts and in some respects surpasses them all. It is a work never to be forgotten when once seen. Although laboring under the serious disadvantage of a severe cold and sore throat, he gave a most artistic portion to every one. He hasn't a weak scene in the entire play, some of his climaxes being marked by extraordinary power and passion.

Of the eight other persons in the cast, Miss Geraldine Maye, Mr. Lanagan and Mr. Sol. Smith are deserving of special mention. Miss Maye is very young, but displays a fair knowledge of her art, and acts neatly and artistically, never overdoing anything. Mr. Lanagan's *Sir Jasper Combe* is a dignified, mainly impersonation. *Reuben Haines*, the only comedy part in the piece, is well and effectively worked out by Mr. Smith. Mr. Louis Barrett's *Gray Wynyard* is not a satisfactory performance, while of the other persons in the cast it is not necessary to speak.

The audiences of Monday and last evening were the largest seen in the Opera House for several months, and went away delighted. Everybody should see "Dan'l Druce." It will be given every evening during the remainder of the week, and at Saturday's matinee.

The Shaughraun.

"Who wouldn't be an actor?" Mr. Boucicault has received, for playing *Conn* in his play of the "Shaughraun," $157,000 for two hundred and sixteen performances at Wallack's, New York; $29,000 for four weeks in Boston; $27,000 for four weeks in San Francisco; $12,000 for two weeks in Philadelphia. With the proceeds of his London engagement, the total is over $300,000.

Mr. Boucicault plays *Conn* at the Opera House, next week.

Engagement of Mr. Murphy.

At the meeting of the Young Men's Temperance Union last evening, after a long discussion, it was decided to engage Francis Murphy at a salary of $200 per week to aid in the organization of auxiliary branches in this county.

HELPING THE NEEDY.

Meeting of the Society for Improvement of the Poor—Reports of Visitors, &c., &c.

The Pittsburgh Society for the Improvement of the Poor held their regular weekly meeting Monday afternoon, the President, Mrs. W. A. Herron, in the chair.

Mrs. Lippincott, the Secretary, presented her report of the work at the Central office during the past week, of which the following is a summary:

Number of families relieved during week ending February 3, 1877, 191, embracing 825 persons. Nationality—American, 56; English, 20; German, 16; Scotch, 4; Irish, 69; Welsh, 14; Pole, 1; colored, 29. Denominations—Episcopal, 8; Presbyterian, 6; Lutheran, 9; Methodist, 22; Baptist, 10; Catholic, 35; no church, 101.

The Central office has filled 151 grocery orders; given out in orders 374 loaves of bread, 2 barrels of crackers, 20 articles partly worn clothing, 12 articles new clothing made by seamstresses in office, 4 comforts, 126 pairs of shoes and 87 coal orders.

Contributions—Mrs. W. R. Murphy, 5 articles clothing; Mrs. Thompson McClintock, 5 do.; Mr. John Caughey, 2 do.; Mrs. Samuel Ewert, 2 do.; Mrs. George Duff, 6 scrubbing brushes; Mrs. Amelia Dunn; 1 bedstead, 2 mattresses, 1 kitchen table, 2 chairs; M. S. McMaster, 4 articles clothing; Master Ogdon Edwards, 12 Sunday school papers.

Mrs. Seibold, who through the aid of the society, had been enabled to reach her friends in St. Louis, informed us by letter of her safe arrival, and expressed her hearty thanks to the ladies.

Our labor has been sweetened by these evidences of gratitude, and we are encouraged by seeing sometimes the fruits of last year's work. It is noteworthy that amidst the excitements of the temperance meetings in our city our Visitors' prayer meetings are growing steadily in numbers and interest.

The following is a recapitulation of the reports of the lady visitors of the society for the week ending January 28.

Number of visits, 609; families relieved, 360; coal orders, 28; shoe orders, 88; intemperate families visited, 23; 5 scholars sent to Sabbath school; 9 persons provided with employment, 1 family of 6 persons sent to poor house.

COURT PROCEEDINGS

U. S. District Court—Judge Ketcham.

The Escanaba Furnace Company, bankrupt, and the Cascade Iron Company, bankrupt, city. On petition of Andrew Kloman an order was made for a meeting of creditors in above cases on the 6th prox.

F. W. Hepp, bankrupt, Crawford county. Petition for discharge presented and usual order made.

Thomas S. Randall, bankrupt, Mercer county. Assignee's report of the sale of personal property presented and confirmed *nisi*; also order made for sale of certain claims and debts.

Jamestown Machine Works, bankrupts, Mercer county. Order made for public sale of book accounts.

H. A. Freyvogle, bankrupt, city. Leave granted bankrupt to foreclose certain mortgages.

George H. Garber, bankrupt, city. Resolution of composition ordered to be made binding on all the creditors.

In the matter of the petition of Herman Niehaus, for the adjudication in bankruptcy of himself and A. L. Niehaus, his copartner, an order was granted on said A. L. Niehaus to show cause why he should not be adjudged a bankrupt. Returnable on the 15th inst.

Ewart, Blackstone & Co., bankrupts, Mercer county. Order made for a meeting of creditors on the 26th inst. before Register Rogers,

Thomas D. Adams, bankrupt, Venango county. Assignee's report of sale of certain property confirmed *nisi*.

Andrew Beyl and Charles Beyl, bankrupts, Venango county. Order of reference to register Rogers to ascertain whether illegal interest is included in certain judgments against bankrupts, and what amount of attorney's commission is included in said judgments, to ascertain and liquidate certain specifications, claims, etc.

Mellor, Baines & Mellor *et al.* vs. Caroline Lazarus and otherwise M. C. Lazarus, Luzerne county, debtor. Said debtor adjudged a bankrupt, and the matter referred to Register Willard.

John Dingwell, bankrupts, Erie. Register's report adjusting liens confirmed absolutely.

Carter and Baum, bankrupts, Pittsburgh. An order was made appointing assignee to file bond.

Common Pleas No. 1—Judges Sterrett and Collier.

Culmer